

(53A) Honble the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of  
his Lordships Governour and the upper and lower Houses of Assembly  
and the Authority of the Same that all Actions now depending in  
any of the Courts of Law within this Province as well as all other  
Actions to be commenced may be continued to the end of the fourth  
Court after the appearance Court in any of the Courts aforesaid and no  
longer (Except in Causes) where Evidences are wanted from beyond  
Sea nor is left to the discretion of the Court where such case shall  
happen and that it shall and may be lawfull for the said Courts  
aforesaid upon the discontinuance of any Action or Actions  
if by the Act or default of the plaintiff to award him to pay  
the Cost but if the Act or default of the Defendant to give Judg-  
ment for the plaintiff and if thro the default of any Attorneys  
Neglecting their Duty in bringing Causes to a decision within the time  
limited by this Act in all and every such Case every Attorney so  
neglecting his Duty to the Prejudice of his or their Client shall  
for every such Neglect in the Provinciaall Court forfeit the Sum  
of five thousand pounds of Tobacco and for every Neglect in the  
County Court the Sum of two thousand pounds of Tobacco and all  
Costs of Suit accrued on any Action discontinued by default of  
such Attorney one half of the aforesaid fines to the party grieved  
the other half to his Lordship the Lord Proprietary to be appropri-  
ated to and for the use and benefit of a Publick or free school  
of the County where such fines arise, to be recovered in his Lord-  
ships Name in any of the Courts of Record within this Province  
by Action of Debt Bill plaint or information wherein no Escoyn  
protection or Wager of Law to be allowed and but one imparlance  
Provided that the time of Continuance of any such Suits in the  
Courts of Law by Injunction in Chancery or by allowing Infirm  
the benefit of the Parole demurr be not accounted as part of  
the time of limitations aforesaid AND whereas it often happens  
that Actions are delayed by reason the Evidences in such Suits  
are Seafaring Men or others whose business and Employments  
call them out of this Province when such Actions should re-  
gularly come to tryall, Be it therefore further Enacted  
by the Authority Advice and Consent aforesaid that the Depositions  
of any such Seafaring Men or others taken before two Justices  
of any County Court of this Province or one of the Justices  
of the Provinciaall Court in the presence of the adverse party  
to him that requires such Depositions to be taken if upon  
due Notice he thinks fit to be present or upon Notice to  
refuse to be present (the Notice being proved) shall be received  
as good Evidence in any of the Courts within this Province  
as if such Evidence were personally present upon the tryall  
and should deliver the Same viva voce. AND be it  
further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that from and after  
the End of this present Session of Assembly it shall and may be  
lawfull for any person or persons that shall conceive themselves  
aggrieved