
At a Session of A S S E M B L Y, begun and held at the City of A N N A P O L I S, in M A R Y - L A N D, the Nineteenth Day of *August*, 1731, the following L A W S were Enacted.

An A C T for easing sundry Inhabitants of this Province, who are Owners of Vessels, from some Difficulties they are put to by an Act, entituled, a Supplementary Act to the Act, entituled, an Act for laying an Imposition on Negroes, and several Sorts of Liquors imported; and also on Irish Servants, to prevent the Importing too great a Number of Irish Papists into this Province.

F O R A S M U C H, as it appears to this General Assembly, That the Owner or Owners of any Vessel belonging to this Province, may, by the Act of Assembly aforesaid, be put to very great Inconveniences, where they live remote from any Naval Officer, or have Occasion to make Entry of such Vessel in any other Port of this Province, than where such Owner or Owners reside, by their being obliged to go to the Naval Officer of the Port where such Entry is made, to prove their Property in said Vessel:

BE IT ENACTED, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That an Oath made by the Owner or Owners of any Vessel, before a Magistrate, in any County where any such Owner or Owners shall reside, agreeable to the Form of the Oath prescribed by the beforementioned Act, and a Certificate thereof, under the Hand and Seal of the Magistrate who shall administer the same, shall be taken and allowed to be as good and effectual, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, and shall entitle the Owner or Owners of such Vessel, and all others concerned, to the same Priviledges and Allowances, as if the said Oath had been taken before the Naval Officer of the Port where such Vessel hath or shall be entered.

P R O V I D E D always, That a Certificate of the Taking such Oath, under the Hand and Seal of the Magistrate who shall take the same, shall be delivered to the Naval Officer where any Entry is or shall be made, some Time before the Clearing such Vessel.

A N D, Whereas it may happen, that the Owners of a Vessel may reside in different Counties in this Province, so that they cannot conveniently meet together, to make Oath to their Property, before one Magistrate: