

The Committee having seriously and deliberately Consulted ^{Original} the old law and debated the severall proposalls of his Ex^{cy} to ^{Journal.} be Enacted into a new law do find that the said proposalls tend much to the well Regulating of the militia as likewise the ease of the poorer sort of Inhabitants but for as much as there is an Appearance at this time of some disturbance with the Indians doe not thinke it a proper time to set a law wholly aside that the Inhabitants are soe well acquainted wth as likewise considering that severall of the new proposalls if Enacted into a law yet it is Impossible to put the same in Execucōn this twelve month at least Therefore This Committee are of opinion that a Cobby of the said proposalls be drawne out for ^{p. 31} every County of this province to the end that the Inhabitants of each County may consider of the same & give it to their Delegates in Charge the next Assembly it being not vsuall for parliam^{ts} or Assemblys to Ennact lawes altogether new without first acquainting the people therewith and haveing their approbacōn.

Signed p ord^r Hen: Loftus Clk Co^mittee.

The said Report was subscribed as followes Viz^t

June the 5th 1697.

By the house of Delegates

The house Concurr with the report of the Committee
W Bladen Clk

Ordered that an answer to the same be drawne vp—which was done as followes Viz^t

By his Ex^{cy} the Govern^r & Council &^c

June the 5th 1697.

The Committee of lawes Report to the house in relacōn to the proposall made to them & this Board for the better regulating the militia together with the houses Concurrence with the said Report was recd and here read to which his Ex^{cy} does say that he does not approve of the same but that the house may Consider to have such a law drawne and passed now according to the proposall and a twelve months time given for modelling and fitting themselves vntill which time the old law may be left to stand in force otherwise he is pleased to declare that he must see the old law put in due Execucōn & does intend God willing to take a veiw of the militia of each respective County this Sumer & carry with him the Sheriffe & Clk