

Session
Laws their humble Petition to this present General Assembly) have severally set forth, That they have continued Prisoners for Debt, in the Custody of the Sheriffs of the several Counties aforesaid, viz. The said John Powel, John Nowel, Samuel Stevens, Mary Gordon, and Thomas Price, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Anne-Arundel County; Thomas Hill and James Ward, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Talbot County; Richard Edwards and Nathaniel Wright, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Queen Anne's County; Christopher Bonfield, and Clarina Gilly, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Calvert County; Kenneth Mackensy, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Charles County; Peter Bromfield, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Prince George's County; and Abel Van Burkelo, under the Custody of the Sheriff of Cecil County; for a considerable Time past, and still continue in the like deplorable Circumstances, not being able to redeem their Bodies, with all their Estate or Interest they have in the World; which they would readily surrender up and part with, to their several and respective Creditors, if they would accept of the same, and grant the said Petitioners their Liberty; which seems so unlikely for them to obtain, that (unless relieved by a particular Act to be past in their Favour, which by their said Petitions they have humbly prayed) they must inevitably continue Prisoners for Life; and thereby their Families utterly ruined. And for that the Truth of the said Petitioners Allegations is made appear to this General Assembly, by sufficient Testimony; and that the said Petitioners, and their Families, are fit Objects of Charity, and that their lying in Goal can be no Benefit to their Creditors; It is humbly prayed, that the said Petitioners may be relieved according to their Prayer, and that it may be Enacted,

And be it Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of His Lordship's Governour, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same, That unless all or any of the Creditors of the said John Powel, John Nowel, Samuel Stevens, Mary Gordon, Thomas Price, Thomas Hill, James Ward, Richard Edwards, Nathaniel Wright, Christopher Bonfield, Clarina Gilly, Kenneth Mackensy, Peter Bromfield, and Abel Van Burkelo, or the Creditor or Creditors of any or either of them, or the Attorney or Attorneys, of such Creditor, or Creditors aforesaid, within this Province; shall, within Twenty Days after the End of this Sessions of Assembly, go to the Sheriffs of the aforesaid Counties of Anne-Arundel, Talbot, Queen Anne's, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and Cecil; and give good Security to pay the Imprisonment Fees of Ten Pounds of Tobacco per Day, that shall or may become due from the said John Powel, John Nowel, Samuel Stevens, Mary Gordon, Thomas Price, Thomas Hill, James Ward, Richard Edwards, Nathaniel Wright, Christopher Bonfield, Clarina Gilly, Kenneth Mackensy, Peter Bromfield, and Abel Van Burkelo, after the End of the said