

## ACT OF ASSEMBLY PASSED IN MAY AND JUNE 1751

At a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the fifteenth Day of May in the thirty seventh year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable Charles Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c<sup>a</sup> Annoq Domini 1751 and ending the Eeighth day of June following.

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The following Laws were Enacted and Assented to by his Excellency Samuel Ogle Esquire Governor.

An Act to prevent the Sale of Trashy Tobacco.

No. 1

Whereas it appears to this General Assembly, that the Laws heretofore made, relating to Tobacco, have proved ineffectual to prevent the Sale of trashy and unmerchantable Tobacco: 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 from and after the thirtieth Day of May Instant, it shall not be lawful for any Person or Persons, on any Pretence whatsoever, to buy, barter for, purchase, or take into his, her, or their Possession, or to sell, or even offer to Sale, either directly or indirectly, any trashy or unmerchantable Tobacco, either loose or in Hands, in Bundle, Bulk, Parcel, Case, Hogshead, or other Package whatsoever; except such Tobacco as hath been heretofore lodged in any Inspecting House (or House or Houses used by Inspectors), in Pursuance of any former Law; under the Penalty of Six Pence Current Money, for every Pound of Tobacco so bought, bartered for, purchased, taken into his, her, or their Possession, sold, or offered to Sale, as aforesaid, to be recovered, where the Penalty shall not exceed fifty Shillings Current Money, before a single Magistrate, as in Case of small Debts; and where such Penalty shall exceed the said Sum, then and in such Case to be recovered in the County Court where such Offence shall happen, or the Party resides, by Action of Debt, Bill, Complaint, or Information, wherein no Essoyn, Protection, Wager of Law, or more than one Impar lance shall be allowed; one Moiety of such Penalty to the Informer, or him, her, or them, that shall sue for the same, together with his, her, or their legal Allowance for Attendance as an Evidence; and the other Moiety to and for the Use of the County where such Offence shall be committed, towards defraying the Charge of such County in the Execution of the Inspection-Laws: And where such Penalty shall

[Preamble.]

[No Persons to buy or sell trashy Tobacco after the 30th Day of May, 1751.]

[Penalty in case of Default, how to be recovered.]