

L. H. J. An Act for regulating the Militia of the Province of Maryland.  
 Liber No. 48  
 May 22

p. 298 Whereas in this Time of Immiment Danger it is requisite for the Defence and Security of this Province that the Militia thereof be duly regulated and well Armed as well to repell the hostile Attempt of foreign Invaders as to quell and Suppress any intestine Comotions Rebellions or Insurrections which may happen.

Be it therefore Enacted by the Right honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordships Governor and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly and the Authority of the Same that every Male Inhabitant of this Province (Papists, the Persons commonly called Neutralls, Servants, and Slaves excepted) who shall be from the Age of Sixteen Years to the Age of Sixty Years and able to bear Arms at the Expiration of Ten days after the Publication of this Act in the County wherein he shall reside shall inlist with the Captain or next Commanding Officer of the Troop of Horse or Company of Foot in the District or Place where such Person shall reside by writing his name or making his Mark (as he shall be able) in a Roll to be Entituled and kept for that Purpose within Ten Days from and after the Publication of this Act as aforesaid under the Penalty of forty Shillings Current Money and the Same Penalty for every Thirty days Neglect or Omission thereafter and all Captains within this Province are hereby directed and commanded to take due Care to Inlist accordingly all such Persons as aforesaid and in Case of dispute whether any Person ought to inlist in respect of his Age the Same Shall be determined by the Officer before whom Such Dispute Shall happen by the Oath of the Person whose Age shall be in Question or the Oath or Affirmation (if a Quaker) of his Parent or some other credible Witness which Oath or Affirmation the Said Officer is hereby authorized to Administer.

And Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that all and every Male Person and Persons (except as above excepted) who shall attain his or their Age of Sixteen Years or come into and Settle in this Province after the Expiration of the aforesaid Ten Days from and after the Publication of this Act and be of the Age aforesaid Shall within Ten days after his or their attaining their Said of Sixteen Years or Twenty Days after his or their Arrival within this Province inlist in the manner aforesaid under the Penalty of Forty Shilling Current Money and the Same Penalty for every Thirty days Neglect or Omission hereafter so to inlist as aforesaid.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the Colonels or Commanding Officers of all Regiments Troops and Company's shall in Ten days after the Publication of this Act in their respective Counties and once at least in every Two Months thereafter issue