

“ **CHARLES**, absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Mary-land and Avalon, Lord Baron of Baltimore, &c. To the Sheriff of County, Greeting. These are to command, authorize and impower you, immediately upon Receipt hereof, to call together Three or more Justices of your County, whereof One to be of the Quorum, with the Clerk of the County Court, who are hereby required to sit as a Court, and during their Sitting, by virtue of your Office, to make, or cause to be made, public Proclamation, thereby giving Notice to all the Freemen of your said County, who have within the said County a Free-hold of Fifty Acres of Land, or who shall be Residents, and have a visible Estate of Forty Pounds Sterling at the least, thereby requiring them to appear at your County Court-House, at a certain Time, not less than Ten Days after such Proclamation made, for electing and choosing Deputies and Delegates to serve for your said County in a General Assembly, to be holden at the Day of to which Time you shall adjourn your said Court; and during the Court's Sitting, the said Freemen so required to appear, or the major Part of such of them as shall then appear, shall and may, and are hereby authorized and required to elect and choose Four several and sufficient Freemen of your County, each of them having a Free-hold of Fifty Acres of Land, or who shall be a Resident, and have a visible Estate of Forty Pounds Sterling at the least, within your County, whether the Parties so elected be present or absent, the said Election to be made in such Manner and Form as the Laws of England and this Province do direct and provide. And you are to insert the Names of the said Persons elected, in certain Indentures to be then made between you the said Sheriff, and the Electors, (That is to say,) Two Indentures for each Delegate, each Indenture having thereto your Hand and Seal, and the Hands and Seals of the several Electors by them subscribed, that the said Deputies and Delegates for themselves, and the County aforesaid, may have severally full and sufficient Power to do and consent to those Things, which then and there, by the Favour of GOD, shall happen to be ordained, by the Advice and Consent of the Great Council of this Province, concerning such Occasions and Affairs as shall relate to the Government, State and Defence thereof. But we will not in any wise that you, or any other Sheriff in our said Province be elected. And upon such Election, you the said Sheriff, so soon as conveniently may be, give Notice to the Parties elected, if absent, and certify and transmit to the Governor, or Keeper of the Great Seal of this Province, for the Time being, One of the Two several and respective Indentures, affixed to these Presents, close Sealed up, and directed to the Governor, or Keeper of the Great Seal of this Province, for the Time being, and the other Part of the said Indentures, you are to keep for your Justification. Witness, &c.”

IV. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, by and with the Advice and Consent aforesaid, That the aforesaid Four Delegates to be elected in the respective Counties within this Province, be and are hereby bound and obliged to attend at the Time and Place of the Meeting of such Assembly, without any further Writ or Summons to be to them sent, under the Penalty of such Fines as shall be by the Lower House of Assembly imposed on them, unless upon sufficient Excuse to be admitted by the Lower House of Assembly, their Absence be dispensed with; any Law, Usage or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

V. Provided also, That no Ordinary-Keeper within this Province, during the Time of his Ordinary-keeping, or any other Person disabled by any Laws of England from sitting in Parliament, shall be elected, chosen, or serve as a Deputy or Representative in the said General Assembly, so to be hereafter called, convened and appointed, as aforesaid.

VI. And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That any Sheriff within this Province, who shall not give speedy Notice to the Inhabitants of his County, of the Time and Place where such Election shall be made, as well