

Attorneys, &c to prevent their taking Money. Fees, &c  
what Fees shall be Allowed to Practitioners in the Law who  
shall attend the Circuit Courts, & was explained by a subsequent  
Act passed in March 1725/6 which Act continued in Force  
till July last & by another Act then passed is continued 3 years longer

That by these Acts the Profession of the Law is put under  
so many Hardships & Difficultys that many of the Practitioners  
of the Law have been necessitated to leave their Practice untill  
they shall be relieved from the many & unjust Oppressions  
brought on them thereby, & to that End they have directed your  
Petitioner for them & on their behalves humbly to Apply to your  
Lordships for a Repeal of all the said Acts as being unjust in  
themselves, not agreeable to Reason, & repugnant to the Laws of  
England, therefore not warranted by your Lordships Charter.

Your petitioner therefore, & on behalf of the Practitioners  
of the Law in Maryland humbly pray that your Lordships  
would be forthwith pleased to Repeal the said Acts

And your petitioner shall ever Pray &c

Jan<sup>y</sup>. 22<sup>d</sup>. 1729 upon the said petition being  
presented & read, his Lordships thereupon heard

John Sharpe

the 1<sup>st</sup> Complaint & Disposed thereto for the Reasons  
hereunder mentioned viz :

1<sup>st</sup> Because the Oath prescribed by this Act seems not  
consistent with it's self.

2<sup>dly</sup> The provision made by this Act is unreasonable, because  
it directs one in fine Fee to be taken for prosecuting & Defending  
any Suit from the beginning to the End of it, whereas the  
Reward ought to differ according to the length & Labour of a  
Suit which frequently depends upon the Industry & Ability of  
those who manage them.

3<sup>dly</sup> Every British Subject has a Right to dispose of his own  
Estate in what manner he pleases, because if there is any Extortion,  
Subject to the Controul of the Legislature.