

An Act providing for the security & defence of this Province

The Burgesses & Delegates of the next Genl Assembly taking
their serious consideration the many Murders Injuries & wrongs
committed & done upon the persons & Estates of many the Inhabitants
good People of this Province by the Indians And the great danger the
Province & the Inhabitants thereof are exposed to by the frequent
Inursions & Invasions of the common Enemy the Indians And to the
intent that some speedy course may be taken for the safety & defence
of this Province & the Inhabitants thereof against the said Indians
And forasmuch as the Exercising & training up of Souldiers in
the Art of War & Military discipline is at all tymes most necessary
to putt & keep us in a good posture of defence against our Enemies &
yet at this tyme of danger very much neglected to the endangerment
of the whole Province And for the settling & ascertaining the Charge
of any War that may happen within this Province they humbly
pray that it may be Enacted & be it Enacted by the Lord Proprietor
of this Province by & with the advice & consent of the upper & lower houses
of this next Genl Assembly & the Authority of the same That every
Colonell Major or Cap. within this Province already Commissioned
or hereafter to be Commissioned by his Lordship or his heires or assigns
Lords & Proprietors of this Province or his or their Lieut. or Justice Governour
of this Province for the tyme being shall have power to Enlist such
such many persons Inhabiting within this Province in their severall
& respective divisions betwixt sixty & sixty yeares of Age as
they shall thinke fit to be of the Militia or trained bands of this
Province which persons soe Enlisted they shall Muster Exercise
train up at such certaine places & at such certaine tymes
often as to them shall seeme meete or the service safety & defence
of the Province shall require or his Lordship the Lord Proprietor of this
Province his heires or assigns or their Lieut. Genl
Governour & Council for the tyme being shall see cause to order
And every person soe Enlisted into the said Militia or trained bands
or that shall upon due Summons to him or them given or left at
his or their house or place of Abode by any Officer of the trained
bands neglect or refuse to be Enlisted into such Militia or
bands to meet at the tyme & place appointed by their severall
respective Officers as aforesaid there to be Mustered train
Exercised in the Art of War & shall not bring with them
good serviceable fixed Gunn according to his or her
over every such Offence forfoith pay the sum
to the right heires or assigns