

May the 9<sup>th</sup> 1718 Read and reported to by the upper house of this assembly  
& Signed Order — — — — — John Beant Esq<sup>r</sup>  
May the 10<sup>th</sup> 1718 — On behalf of the right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Proprietor of  
this Province — I will this be a Law —

*W. B. Beant Esq<sup>r</sup>*

**An Act for the relief of Rob<sup>t</sup> High Bricklayer a Languishing  
Prisoner in Calvert County and of Phillippilbeck in Kent County**

Whereas the said Robert High by his Humble Petition to  
the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly of this province has set forth that he hath been a prisoner  
for Debt in the Custody of the Sher<sup>iff</sup> of Calvert County above four years and  
that he is an Antient man and hath a wife and three small Children  
and nothing for them to Live on (nor in the world to the Value of  
Twelve pounds) which his Creditors are not willing to Accept of in his  
Discharge, so that unless some relief be Provided for him by a particular Act  
to be pass in his favour which by his<sup>d</sup> Petition he hath humbly prayed  
for he fears he shall Continue a Prisoner for Life, and by that means his  
wife and three small Children become a burthen to the County for  
Necessary Sustenance to preserve them from Starving, and for that the  
truths of the said Rob<sup>t</sup> Highs Allegat<sup>ns</sup> are made appear to this present  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly by sufficient Testimony, and also that the said Robert  
has not fallen under such Circumstances by any Extrajudicial  
Opence of his own since he came into this province, and therefore  
that the said Robert and his family are thought fit Objects of  
Charity and that his Languish in Jail can be no benefit to his Creditors  
tho, it may prove aruill to his family and a burthen to the County  
is therefore humbly prayed that the said Rob<sup>t</sup> may be released  
according to his prayer and that it may be enacted —

That be it enacted by the right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Proprietary of  
with the advice and Consent of this Lordships<sup>d</sup> Council and the upper  
Lower houses of it assembly and by the Authority of the same that  
in Case the said Rob<sup>t</sup> High shall Deliver up and Surrender  
to be Delivered up and Surrendered to the Sher<sup>iff</sup> of Calvert County  
in the presence of two Justices of the peace in the said County  
the said Sher<sup>iff</sup> is hereby required to Summon on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the  
said Rob<sup>t</sup> at the said Roberts own Dwelling place at the County  
House within three months after the End of this present Assembly