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1) Imported by Land or water into this Province and also by another Act of Assembly made at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the twenty eighth Day of May Seventeen hundred and Seventeen Intituled An Act for laying an Additionall Duty of twenty Shillings Current Money per pole on all Irish Servants being Papists to prevent the Growth of Popery by the Importation of too great a Number of them into this Province and also the Additionall Duty of twenty Shillings Current Money per pole on all Negroes for raising a fund for the use of the Publick Schools within the Severall Counties of this Province, An Imposition was laid of twenty Shillings Current Money per pole on all Negroes imported into this Province. But forasmuch as it hath been represented to this Generall Assembly as an aggrivance and hardship that any the Inhabitants within this Province having Estates in any the Neighbouring Colonies cannot have the Liberty of Removing their Negroes from their Plantations in any of the Neighbouring Colonies to work upon their Lands and Plantations in this Province without paying the impositions mentioned in the aforementioned Acts and likewise that it very much tends to the hindrance and preventing of many Considerable Families from coming into and settling in this Province that upon their coming they must be obliged to pay the imposition as aforesaid for all their Domestick Slaves for remedy whereof it is prayed that it may be Enacted

AND BE it ENACTED by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary by and with the Advice and consent of his Lordships Governour and the upper and lower Houses of Assembly and by the Authority of the Same that from and after the End of this Present Session of Assembly no person or persons now inhabiting or that shall hereafter import themselves with their families to settle and inhabit within this Province and shall have occasion to bring into or import with them any Negro or Negroes being their own proper and Domestick Slaves and designed to be kept and employed by them in their own Service shall be liable to pay the imposition Money laid on all Negroes imported into this Province by the aforementioned Acts PROVIDED the owner of such Negroes shall within two Days after the importation of such Negro or Negroes repair to the Navall Officer of the Respective Port whereunto such Negroes shall be imported within this Province and make a due entry of such Negro or Negroes by their proper Names as their proper Domestick Slaves and likewise give bond with one good Security to be taken in his Lordships Name by such Navall Officer in the Summe of five hundred pounds Current Money that such owners shall not sell or dispose of any such Negro or Negroes for and during the Space of three Years after such Entry made as aforesaid and the Navall Officer upon making such Entry and taking Bond as aforesaid is hereby enjoyned to give such

(Owners)