

rent Money, to the Use of such Informer: To be recovered in any County Court, within this Province, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information; wherein no Effoin, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be allowed.

*BE IT ENACTED*, by the Authority aforesaid, That in Case of any Seizure of any Hogshead or Hogsheads as aforesaid, which shall be found to exceed the Gauge aforesaid, if the Party to whom the same belongs, or in whose Possession the same is found, shall, by his own Oath, or the Oath of any credible Witness, prove to the Satisfaction of such Officer as aforesaid, that the said Hogshead was made and packed before the Commencement of this Act; then, and in such Case, such Seizure shall be immediately released and discharged, in Manner aforesaid, without any Costs or Charges whatsoever, to the Party so in Possession of such Hogshead of Tobacco aforesaid. And whereas, the Inhabitants of this Province, that ship Tobacco on board Ships and other Vessels upon Freight, are much abused by the Cropping, Lessening, and Diminishing the Hogshead wherein such Tobacco is packed, by Masters of Ships or other Vessels, or Persons under their Command and Government: For Remedy whereof, for the future,

*BE IT ENACTED*, by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Master of a Ship or other Vessel, within this Province, after the First Day of *October* next, shall receive any Hogshead or Hogsheads of Tobacco on board his said Ship, or Vessel, under his Command, on Freight; and shall, either by himself, or any other Person or Officer on board his said Ship, cut, or suffer any Hogshead or Hogsheads of Tobacco to be cut, cropt, or lessened in their Length or Breadth, or by any other Ways or Means, abused, defaced, or impaired; to be proved by the Oath of any sufficient Person, to whom the Tobacco is consigned in *Great-Britain*, or other sufficient Witness taken before any Magistrate, according to the Form of the Statute in such Cases provided, and sent hither by any other legal Proof whatsoever, made in this Province, or elsewhere, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds Current Money of *Maryland*, to the Party grieved: To be recovered in any Court of Record within this Province, against such Master, by Action of Debt, on the Case, or against the Surety or Sureties of such Master of a Ship or Vessel, out of the Penalty of the impost Bond, to be given by such Master, within One Year after the Date of the Bill or Bills of Lading of such Tobacco.

*AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED*, by the Authority, Advice, and Consent aforesaid, That any Person who shall ship any Tobacco on board any Ship or Vessel upon Freight; and shall suspect that such Tobacco be cut, cropt, or defaced, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Act, may repair on board any such Ship or Vessel, and view his or her Tobacco; provided that no Tobacco that is stowed away out of View, shall be unstowed, to be so examined or viewed as aforesaid.

*AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED*, That any Master, or other Person, having the Charge or Command of any Ship or Vessel, who shall presume to hinder any such Freighter, or other Person or Persons, from going between the Decks, or into the Hole, for the Purposes aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay, Fifty Pounds Current Money; One Moiety thereof to the Lord Proprietary; the other Moiety to the Freighter, or other Person, who will sue for the same: To be recovered, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information; wherein no Effoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, shall be allowed.

*AND*