

*Statutes of Upper-Canada, Passed in the third session of the seventh provincial parliament (1818).*  
From *The Provincial Statutes of Upper-Canada, Revised, Corrected, and Republished by Authority*  
(York, Samuel Smith, 1818)

58 George III – Chapter 11 (Session 3)

**An act to prevent certain meetings within this province. (Passed 27th November, 1818.)**

Whereas, the election or appointment of Assemblies, purporting to represent the people, or any description of the people, under the pretence of deliberating upon matters of public concern, or of preparing or presenting Petitions, Complaints, Remonstrances, and Declarations, and other Addresses to the King, or to both or either Houses of Parliament, for alteration of matters established by Law, or redress of alleged grievances in Church or State, may be made use of to serve the ends of factious and seditious persons, to the violation of the Public Peace, and manifest encouragement of Riot, Tumult, and Disorder; It is hereby enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, entitled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, entitled, 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province,'" and by the authority of the same, That all such Assemblies, Committees, or other bodies of persons, elected or otherwise constituted or appointed, shall be held and taken to be unlawful assemblies, and that all persons given or publishing notice of the election to be made of such persons or delegates, or attending, voting, or acting therein by any means, are guilty of a high misdemeanor; Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall impede the just exercise of the undoubted right of His Majesty's Subjects to petition the King or Parliament for redress of any public or private grievance.