

*At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Tuesday the Twenty Eighth Day of May, 1765, in the Fifth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and there continued by several Prorogations until the Twenty Second Day of October, 1768, in the eighth year of His said Majesty's Reign; being the Seventh Session of the Fourth General Assembly convened in the said Province.*

8 George III – Chapter 4 (Session 2)

**An Act relating to Searchers and Sealers of Leather.**

Be it enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council, and Assembly, that no tanner or other person whatsoever, shall sell or expose to sale, any leather tanned, curried or otherwise dressed or manufactured within this Province, or imported into the same (from any of the neighbouring colonies) till the same has been viewed, stamped, and marked by the officer for that purpose to be appointed, on pain of forfeiting the sum of twenty shillings for every ox, bull, steer, or cow hide, and five shillings for every calf skin so sold or offered to be sold.

II. And be it further enacted, that every surveyor appointed and sworn according to law, shall, from time to time, view all such hides and skins as aforesaid, and shall stamp and mark all such as he shall find to be sufficiently tanned, curried, or otherwise dressed or manufactured; and if any such hides or skins shall have been manufactured within this Province, the same shall be stamped and marked with the first letter of the name of the town wherein they have been so manufactured, and such surveyor shall be paid for his trouble in viewing and marking such hides and skins, at the following rates, that is to say, for every ox, bull, steer or cow hide, three pence, and for every calf skin one penny; and every such hide shall, at the time of being so surveyed and marked, be weighed also in presence of the surveyor, and the weight thereof shall by him be marked on said hide.

III. And be it also enacted, that if any person or persons shall presume to counterfeit the stamp or mark by this Act required, and shall be thereof convicted before any two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, he shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds.

IV. And be it also further enacted, that all forfeitures and penalties arising by force and virtue of this Act, shall be one half to the informer, and the other half to the use of the poor, and be recovered by complaint or information, before any two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county where such complaint or information shall arise; and be levied, upon due conviction, by Warrant of Distress and Sale of the Offender's goods and chattels, under the hand and seal of such Justices; and for want of sufficient distress the offender to suffer one month's imprisonment.