

*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 5 (Session 2)

**An Act for establishing the Times of holding the Supreme Court.**

Whereas great inconveniences, by fixing and confining the times of holding His Majesty's Supreme Court of this Province to two terms only in the year, have arisen, and may further arise from a want of a more speedy administration of justice in capital offences, both from the long and injurious detention and confinement of such prisoners who, upon their trial and defence, may appear to be innocent of the crimes for which they are committed, and also from protracting the punishment of offenders who may appear to be guilty of crimes of the most enormous nature, and of dangerous tendency to the safety and peace of the public, and by such delay of justice emboldening offenders, and weakening the force and terrors of the laws; and likewise in hearing and determining causes of property in the said court, both originally and by writs of error from the inferior courts, to the great delay of the subject in recovering their civil rights and demands, and more especially as suits are most frequently and generally commenced in the said Supreme Court; Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council, and Assembly, and by the authority of the same it is hereby enacted, that His Majesty's said Supreme Court shall be holden at four terms in every year, that is to say, on the first Tuesdays in the months of January, of April, of July, and of October; and that the said court shall be and is hereby empowered to proceed in the said respective four terms, in the same manner as in the said two terms heretofore limited and appointed; and that the several laws of this province respecting the summoning of jurors, shall extend and be construed to extend to the holding the said Supreme Court at the four terms as before directed; and that all the proceedings, rules, judgments and executions of the said Supreme Court, in the course of their sittings in the said terms, shall be good, valid, and effectual, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.