

*At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on the Sixth Day of June, 1770, in the Tenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Third, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. and there continued by several Prorogations until the Ninth day of June, 1772, in the Twelfth Year of his said Majesty's Reign, being the Third Session of the Fifth General Assembly convened in the said Province.*

12 George III – Chapter 6

**An Act in further Amendment of, and in Addition to an Act made in the Third Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to enable the several Townships within this Province to maintain their Poor."**

Whereas the appointing twelve assessors for assessing the sums voted for the support of the poor, is found inconvenient, at Halifax, as well as in the several other townships in this Province:

I. Be it enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that the inhabitants in each and every town or township in this Province, shall at their meeting for raising money for the support of the poor, choose five freeholders of the said town or township, any three of whom to be a quorum, (and who being first duly sworn) are hereby impowered to assess the inhabitants of such township their proportions of the sum voted for the support of the poor, as near as may be according to their abilities, and in case the said assessors shall neglect or refuse to meet and make the said assessment within twenty days after their appointment, each and every person so refusing or neglecting, shall be subject to a fine of five pounds, for the use of the poor of such township, which shall, on failure of payment, be levied on complaint of the overseers of the poor before two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, by Warrant of Distress and Sale of the offender's goods and chattels, and another shall be appointed in his stead.

II. Provided always, that no person shall be obliged to serve as an assessor oftner than once in three years.

III. And be it further enacted, that no person shall be assessed any thing towards the support of the poor, unless in the opinion of the assessors he shall be able to pay the sum of one shilling at least, annually.

IV. And whereas no monies have been raised for the support of the poor of the township of Halifax, for this present year; Be it enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the overseers of the poor of the said township of Halifax, to warn the inhabitants of said township, to meet on the fifteenth day of July, of this present year, one thousand, seven hundred, and seventy two, giving them six days notice, and the inhabitants so met are hereby impowered to vote such a sum of money as they shall judge necessary, for the support and maintenance of their

poor for the current year, to be assessed, levied, and raised, as by the laws of this Province is directed.

V. And whereas several of the inhabitants of the township of Halifax, have already voluntarily contributed and paid towards the support of their poor for the present year; Be it enacted, that the collectors appointed to collect the sum to be voted as aforesaid, shall deduct from such persons the respective sums by them so contributed and paid, out of the sum they shall be assessed by virtue of this Act.

VI. And be it further enacted, that all former assessments heretofore made, for the maintenance of the poor, shall be and they are hereby confirmed, and the arrears due thereon shall and may be collected and levied by the collectors for the time being, and want of form or length of time since the said assessments have been made, notwithstanding.