

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 Twentieth Day of October, Anno Domini 1775, in the Fifteenth Year of his said Majesty's Reign, being the Second Session of the Fifth General Assembly convened in the said Province.

15 George III – Chapter 2 (Session 2)

An Act in Addition to an Act, made in the First Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, An Act to prevent the spreading of contagious Dispers.

Be it enacted, by the Governor, Council and Assembly, that for the better preventing the spreading of infection, when it shall happen that any person or persons coming from a road, or belonging to any town or place within this Province, visited or that late before, have been visited with the plague, small pox, pestilential or malignant fever, or other contagious sickness, the infection whereof may probably be communicated to others, two or more of the Justices or the Peace, together with the overseers of the poor, of such town, are hereby impowered, upon full and sufficient evidence and proof being made to such Justices and overseers of the poor, and after taking the testimony of one or more physician surgeon or apothecary, living and residing in, or near such township or place, to take care and make effectual provision in the best manner they can, for the preservation of the inhabitants, and of such sick or infected person or persons shall not remove himself, or themselves, or be removed by his or their parents or masters, to such place as the Justices of overseers of the poor, shall think fit and proper, provided the same be within such township or place, it shall and may be lawful for the said Justices and overseers of the poor to remove and place such sick or infected person or persons to, and in a separate house or houses as aforesaid, and by providing nurses, attendance and other assistance, and necessaries for them at the charge of the parties themselves, their parents or them at the charge of the parties themselves, their parents or masters, if able, or otherwise at the charge of the town or place whereto they belong. And in case it shall happen, that any person or persons shall be visited with any such small pox, malignant infection or sickness, in any other town or place than that whereto they belong, and thereby occasion a charge to such town, the overseers of the poor shall lay the account thereof before the Justice in the court of General or Special Sessions of the Peace, held for the county or district, where such town lies, whereto such person or persons belong, and the Justices having adjusted the account of such charge, and allowed so much thereof as they judge reasonable, shall order payment thereof to be made by the overseers of the poor, when the persons themselves, their parents, or masters, are unable to pay the same, and when it shall happen that such indigent persons, are not inhabitants or belonging to any town or place within this Province, and the proper charge thereof, in case they need relief, being adjusted as aforesaid, then the charge of their sickness shall be defrayed out of the public treasury of the Province, by warrant from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief on the certificate of the said Justices.

II. Provided, that any person or persons desirous of being inoculated (for the small pox) themselves, or of having their families inoculated, may proceed therein, provided, that the house or place wherein they dwell or reside, during the time of their being infected with the small pox, shall be at least one hundred and sixty rods distance from any other house or dwelling, and that they take care to prevent and restrain all persons infected from going from thence further than eighty rods from such house, and also that such their design of inoculating be made known in the township where they dwell, and a flag hung out at their said house, to the end that all persons may take notice thereof, and avoid is they see cause going near such houses or places.

III. Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained, shall be construed to extend to the town of Halifax.