

*At the General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, begun and holden at Halifax, on Monday, the Second Day of October, 1758, and in the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of His Majesty's Reign.*

32 George II – Chapter 16

**An Act for preventing Frauds by Butchers and Fishmongers.**

Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council, and Assembly, and by the authority of the same it is hereby enacted, that every butcher and other person, who shall kill or slaughter any ox, cow, sheep, swine, calf, lamb, or other cattle, for sale, shall slaughter and flea the same in the most clean and plain manner, and shall not on any pretence, raise, or blow, or use any fraudulent or deceitful art to set off the same; and no butcher or other person, shall sell or expose to sale any cattle killed, but what shall be killed or dressed in the most plain manner, and according to the meaning of this Act; and if any butcher or other person shall offend in any of the premisses, and be convicted of the said offence, before one Justice of the Peace of any county, by one witness or confession of the offender, or on view by such Justice, he shall forfeit such ox, cow, sheep, swine, calf, lamb, or other cattle or part thereof, killed or dressed contrary to this Act, to be disposed of, by such Justice, among the poor of the town, where such offence shall be committed, or among the prisoners; and shall further forfeit the sum of five shillings to and for the use of the informer, to be levied by warrant of distress under the hand and seal of such Justice.

And be it further enacted, that no butcher or other person shall sell or expose to sale, any tainted flesh or fish unfit for sale, under the like forfeiture and penalty, to be prosecuted and recovered, and to be disposed of in manner aforesaid, unless the said tainted or fish, be wholly unfit for food, in which case, the Justice before whom such conviction shall be had, shall cause such tainted flesh or fish to be burnt or otherwise destroyed.

And be it further enacted, that the clerk of the market shall and are hereby impowered, ex officio, to seize and take all such flesh blown, or fraudulently or deceitfully set off, or fish tainted and unfit for sale, and to proceed against and convict such offenders in manner aforesaid, and the fines arising therefrom shall be to and for their own use.