

An Act for the calling this first house of Assembly.

Acts of first day.

1697

Be it enacted by the L<sup>d</sup>. Prop<sup>r</sup>. of B<sup>r</sup> w<sup>th</sup> C<sup>o</sup> advise & consent of the Freemen of the province, by his L<sup>d</sup>s Councils put in p<sup>r</sup>o: & these his honorable persons Capt. J<sup>r</sup>. Price Capt. Rob<sup>t</sup>. Vaughan, M<sup>r</sup>. Henrich, M<sup>r</sup>. Bradnor M<sup>r</sup>. Conner, M<sup>r</sup>. Thorneborough M<sup>r</sup>. Brookes Tho<sup>s</sup>. Allen, Rich<sup>d</sup>. Banks, Barnaby Jackson, George Saphyer, George Akerick, J<sup>r</sup>. Medley, Water Waterlin, Walter Pakes, Edward Parker, or any Ten of them assembled w<sup>th</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup>. & C<sup>o</sup>. Clerk of the Assembly at the times & place prefixed by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. shall be a House of Assembly in all intents & purposes. And all Bills passed by the L<sup>d</sup>s Freemen or the major part of them & enacted by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. shall be Lawes of the Prov<sup>ce</sup>: after publication thereof under the hand of the Gov<sup>r</sup>. & the great Seale of the Prov<sup>ce</sup>: as fully to all effects in Law, as if they were advised & assented unto by all the Freemen of the Prov<sup>ce</sup>: in person.

Published Eod<sup>o</sup>.

The Freemen assented unto it

The Gov<sup>r</sup> assented unto it and enacted it in the name of the L<sup>d</sup>s Prop<sup>r</sup>.

Transcribed

The house adjourned by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. till tomorrow 9 o'clock.

Walter Pakes appeared as the proxies.

Friday 21<sup>th</sup> Jan.

The Freemen bound to attend the Assembly appeared except M<sup>r</sup>. Henrich, M<sup>r</sup>. Thorneborough, M<sup>r</sup>. Brookes & George Saphyer.

Summons to George Saphyer to be at the Assembly further upon right &c. was read certain orders to be observed in the house during the Assembly.

Come M<sup>r</sup>. Margaret Brent & requested to have voice on the house for herself & voice also for the L<sup>d</sup>s Court & J<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>r</sup>. Brent was to be looked upon & received as his L<sup>d</sup>s Attorney.

The Gov<sup>r</sup>. denied the L<sup>d</sup>s M<sup>r</sup>. Brent should have any vote on the house. And the L<sup>d</sup>s M<sup>r</sup>. Brent protested against all proceedings on this first Assembly, unless they may be put and have vote as aforesaid.

Orders. &c.

Published Eod<sup>o</sup>.

1. That noe one of the house shall use any railing speeches or names any one by his name but by another signification. Viz. the Gov<sup>r</sup> to speak last, & the L<sup>d</sup>s.
2. That noe one shall speak above once at one reading to any Bills w<sup>th</sup> out the consent of the Gov<sup>r</sup>. And if 2 persons rise up together, the Gov<sup>r</sup>. shall appoint who shall speak first. And noe one shall interrupt another, or speak till the other hath ended.
3. That noe one shall deliver his opinion or speak to any bill sitting, But shall stand up reverently & bare-headed, directing his speech to the Gov<sup>r</sup>.
4. That every Bill proposed to the house shall be read 3 severall times before it shall be voted to be enacted. And if betwixt every such reading, one day shall be intermitted unless w<sup>th</sup> speciall licence of the Gov<sup>r</sup>.
5. That before the next day of Sessions for the enacting of all the Lawes, not w<sup>th</sup> in that, be given 30 days before, at the least to all the County of the Prov<sup>ce</sup>. to make their personal appearances, if they shall like thereof.