

# ACTS

PASSED AT THE SESSION BEGUN AND HELD AT BOSTON,  
ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF JULY, A.D. 1741.

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## CHAPTER 1.

AN ACT TO PREVENT UNNECESSARY PETITIONS TO THE GREAT AND  
GENERAL COURT.

WHEREAS, persons are frequently put to great cost and charge in making answer to causeless petitions preferred to the general court of this province; for remedy whereof,—

Preamble.  
1735-36, chap. 20.

*Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,*

[SECT. 1.] That, for the future, when any petition or complaint exhibited to the general court shall be dismissed as vexatious or causeless, and the same be expressed in the vote of dismissal, the respondent or adverse party shall be intitled to have and receive of the petitioner or complainant all such reasonable costs and damages as he or they have sustained in attending or making answer to such petition or complaint.

Upon the dismission of vexatious petitions, &c., the adverse party to recover damages.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,*

[SECT. 2.] That no petition shall be received into the court, except the same be preferred within the space of fourteen days from the first sitting of said court, unless the cause upon which the petition is founded arose within the sitting of said court.

No petition to be received after fourteen days from the court's first sitting, unless, &c.

[SECT. 3.] This act to continue and be in force for the space of seven years from the publication thereof, and from thence to the end of the next session of the general court, and no longer. [*Passed August 8; published August 10.*]

Limitation.

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## CHAPTER 2.

AN ACT TO ENABLE PROPRIETORS IN COMMON AND UNDIVIDED LANDS  
TO CHUSE TREASURERS FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPRIETIES AS  
OCCASION MAY REQUIRE.

*Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governour, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,*

That it shall and may be lawful[1] for the proprietors of any common and undivided lands, or the major part in interest of them that are present at any of their lawful[1] meetings, whenever occasion shall require, to chuse some suitable person for their treasurer, who shall be sworn

1727, chap. 9. Proprietors of common lands impowered to chuse treasurers.