

ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO PRIMO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

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CAP. LXXX.

An Act to render valid certain Indentures for the binding of Pariſh Apprentices. [15th *June* 1811.]

WHEREAS by an Act paſſed in the Forty-third Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Elizabeth*, intituled, *An Act for the Relief of the Poor*, it is enacted, That the Churchwardens of every Pariſh, and Four, Three, or Two ſubſtantial Houſeholders there, as ſhall be thought meet, having reſpect to the Proportion and Greatneſs of the ſame Pariſh and Pariſhes, to be nominated yearly in *Eaſter* Week, or within One Month after *Eaſter*, in the Manner therein directed, ſhall be Overſeers of the Poor of the ſame Pariſh; and that it ſhall be lawful for the ſaid Churchwardens and Overſeers, or the greater Part of them, by the Aſſent of Two Juſtices of the Peace, to bind the Children of ſuch Parents as ſhall not by the ſaid Churchwardens and Overſeers or the greater Part of them be thought able to maintain their Children, to be Apprentices: And whereas in divers ſmall Pariſhes Two Perſons only have been annually appointed to act in the Capacity of Churchwardens as well as Overſeers of the Poor: And whereas divers Indentures for the Binding of Pariſh Apprentices, and Certificates of the Settlements of Poor Perſons, have been executed and ſigned by ſuch Two Perſons, purporting to be the Churchwardens and Overſeers of ſuch Pariſhes; but, by reaſon that the ſaid Indentures and Certificates have not been ſigned by diſtinct Perſons as Churchwardens and other diſtinct Perſons as Overſeers, ſuch Indentures and Certificates have been or may be deemed to be 43 Eliz. c. 2.

be void: Be it therefore enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That all Indentures for the binding of Pariſh Apprentices, and all Certificates of the Settlements of Poor Perſons, which have been heretofore executed and ſigned by Two Perſons only, acting or purporting to act in the Capacity of Churchwardens as well as of Overſeers of the Poor, and alſo all ſuch Indentures and Certificates as ſhall hereafter be ſo ſigned, ſhall be conſidered as good, valid, and effectual, as if the ſame had been executed and ſigned by diſtinct Perſons as Churchwardens and diſtinct Perſons as Overſeers of the Poor, according to the ſaid recited Act; any Thing therein or in any other Act contained to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

Indentures and Certificates which have heretofore been ſigned by Two Perſons only acting as Churchwardens and Overſeers, to be valid.

II. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained, ſhall extend to do away or alter any Deciſion which may have taken place in any Court of Law, reſpecting the binding of any Pariſh Apprentice, or the Settlement of any Poor Perſon before the paſſing of this Act.

Act not to affect any prior Deciſion in any Court.

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