ANNO TRICESIMO SEXTO

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. X.

An Act for the better Relief of the Poor, within the several Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, incorporated by divers Acts of Parliament for the Purpose of the better Maintenance and Employment of the Poor; and for enlarging the Powers of the Guardians of the Poor, within the said several Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, as to the Assessments to be made upon the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, within their respective Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, for the Support and Maintenance of the Poor. [18th *December* 1795.]

WHEREAS several Acts of Parliament have of late Years been made and passed, for the better Relief and Employment of the Poor in particular incorporated Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*: And whereas certain Persons, described and appointed by the said several Acts, are thereby empowered to assess the several Parishes, Hamlets, and Places, chargeable to the Poors Rate within the said several Hundreds, Towns, or Districts respectively, in such Sums of Money as they shall think necessary, for defraying the Expences of supporting and maintaining the Poor within their respective Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, and for other the Purposes of the said Acts; but such Sums of Money, for which such Assessments are to be made, are by the said several Acts of Parliament limited so as that they may not exceed a certain Sum in any One Year, which Sum was calculated upon an Average of the Amount of the Poors Rates in each Parish respectively, for a certain Number of Years previous to the passing of the respective incorporating Acts: And whereas, by Reason of the late very great Increase of the Price of Corn, and other necessary Articles of Life, the Amount of the Rates and Assessments, so limited by the said several Acts of Parliament, are become insufficient for the necessary Relief and Maintenance of the Poor, who have also of late greatly increased in Number: And whereas in many incorporated Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, the Expence of maintaining the Poor, since the First Day of *January* One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, has exceeded the whole Amount of the Rates which could be raised in the present Year within those Hundreds, Towns, and Districts, under their respective incorporating Acts; whereby considerable Debts have on that Account been incurred by the Guardians of the Poor of those Hundreds, Towns, and Preamble.

Diſtricts: And it is therefore become neceſſary and expedient that the Powers of the ſeveral Perſons to whom is committed, by the ſaid ſeveral Acts of Parliament, the Duty of appointing the Sums to be aſſeſſed on the ſeveral Pariſhes, Hamlets, and Places within their reſpective Hundreds, Towns, and Diſtricts, ſhould be enlarged: May it therefore pleaſe Your Majeſty that it may be enacted; and be it 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, from and after the paſſing of this Act, it ſhall and may be lawful for the Directors and Acting Guardians of the Poor within any Hundred, Town, or Diſtrict, in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, incorporated by any Act of Parliament for the Relief or Maintenance and Employment of the Poor, or for any other Perſons, by whatſoever Name they are called or deſcribed, to whom is given, by any ſuch incorporating Act, the Power of appointing the Sum or Sums to be aſſeſſed on the ſeveral Pariſhes, Hamlets, or Places, within their reſpective Hundreds, Towns, or Diſtricts, for the Maintenance of the Poor, and other the Purpoſes of ſuch Act, at any of their annual, quarterly, or other general Meetings, whenever the Average Price of Wheat at the Corn Market in *Mark Lane*, *London*, for the Quarter immediately preceding ſuch annual, quarterly, or other general Meeting, ſhall have exceeded the Average Price of Wheat at the ſame Market during thoſe Years from which the Average Amount of the Poors Rates was taken upon the paſſing of the ſeveral incorporating Acts reſpectively, to aſſeſs the ſeveral Pariſhes, Hamlets, and Places within their reſpective Hundreds, Towns, or Diſtricts, which now are or uſually have been charged to the Poors Rates, in ſuch reſpective Sums of Money as the ſaid Directors and Acting Guardians, or ſuch other Perſons as aforeſaid, ſhall think neceſſary for defraying the Expences attending the Support and Maintenance of the Poor for the current Quarter, and for paying the Intereſt of the Money borrowed and due by virtue of the ſaid reſpective Acts, and of any Debts which may have been incurred ſince the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-five, in the Maintenance of the Poor, and for other the Purpoſes of the ſaid Acts, notwithſtanding ſuch Sums of Money ſo to be aſſeſſed ſhould exceed the Amount of the Aſſeſſments limited by ſuch reſpective Acts of Parliament to be aſſeſſed on the reſpective Pariſhes, Hamlets, and Places, within ſuch incorporated Hundreds, Towns, or Diſtricts, in any One Year: Provided always, that the Sums to be aſſeſſed, and the Aſſeſſments to be made by virtue of this Act, in each reſpective incorporated Hundred, Town, or Diſtrict, ſhall be aſſeſſed, made, collected, and paid in the ſame Manner, and ſubject to the ſame Reſtrictions, Regulations, Limitations, and Powers of Appeal, and with the like Powers and Remedies for compelling Payment thereof, as the Sums to be aſſeſſed, and the Aſſeſſments to be made, by virtue of the ſeveral incorporating Acts, are by thoſe reſpective Acts directed to be aſſeſſed, collected, and made, within the ſeveral Hundreds, Towns, and Diſtricts reſpectively incorporated by thoſe Acts: Provided alſo, that the Sums to be aſſeſſed by virtue of this Act, upon any Pariſh, Hamlet, or Place, ſhall be in the ſame Rates and Proportions as the Aſſeſſments which have hitherto been made and levied by virtue of the ſaid Act or Acts incorporating the ſeveral Hundreds, Towns, or Diſtricts in which ſuch Pariſhes, Hamlets, or Places are reſpectively ſituated: And provided alſo, that, from and after the Firſt Day of *January* One thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety-eight, the Sums to be aſſeſſed, by virtue of this Act, on any Pariſh, Hamlet, or Place, ſhall never exceed, in any One Year, the Amount of double the Sum at preſent raiſed by virtue of any incorporating Act now exiſting.

Directors and Acting Guardians of the Poor, incorporated by Acts of Parliament, may, in certain Caſes, make ſuch Aſſeſſments as may be neceſſary for the Support and Maintenance of the Poor, &c. notwithſtanding they may exceed the Aſſeſſments limited by the reſpective Acts.

Aſſeſſments by virtue of this Act to be made, &c. as thoſe under the incorporating Acts.

From *Jan.* 1, 1798, no Aſſeſſment to exceed double the Sums at preſent raiſed under the incorporating Acts.

FINIS.