

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO QUINTO

GEORGII III. REGIS.

CAP. LIV.

An Act to amend an Act, made in the Ninth Year of King *George* the First, for amending the Laws relating to the Settlement, Employment, and Relief of the Poor, so far as the same respects Contracts to be entered into for the Maintenance and Employment of the Poor. [27th *June* 1805.]

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament, passed in the Ninth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the First, intituled, *An Act for the Amendment of the Laws relating to the Settlement, Employment, and Relief of the Poor*, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, with the Consent of the major Part of the Parishioners or Inhabitants, are authorized, in the Manner therein mentioned, to purchase or hire a House or Houses, and to contract with any Person or Persons for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, and employing of the Poor, and for taking the Benefit of their Work, Labour, and Service, for their better Maintenance and Relief; and where any Parish, Town, or Township should be found too small, in such Case to unite Two or more such Parishes, Towns, or Townships, for those Purposes, with the Consent of the major Part of the Parishioners or Inhabitants, and with the Approbation of a Justice of the Peace: And whereas great Inconvenience has arisen from Contracts for the Lodging, Maintenance, and Employment of the Poor of Parishes, having been entered into pursuant to the said Act, with Persons not being 9 G. 1. c. 7.

 resident

resident within such Parishes respectively, nor of sufficient Responsibility to ensure the faithful Performance of such Contracts: 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, from and after the passing of this Act, no Contract to be entered into and made by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, with any Person or Persons, for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing of the Poor of such Parish or Parishes where Two or more are united, and for taking the Benefit of their Work, Labour, and Service, for their better Maintenance and Relief, by virtue or in pursuance of the said Act of the Ninth Year of the Reign of King *George* the First, or of any other Law or Statute whatsoever, shall be valid, binding, or effectual, unless the Person or Persons with whom the same shall be entered into respectively shall and during the Continuance of such Contract be resident within the Parish so contracting, or within the particular Parish in which such Poor shall be lodged and maintained, or who, in the Case where Two or more Parishes are united, shall be so resident as aforesaid in one of such Parishes, or in the Parish in which such Poor shall be lodged and maintained; and unless one or more responsible Householders, resident in such particular Parish or in one of the said Parishes, and to be approved of by the Churchwardens or Overseers of the Poor of such Parish or united Parishes, as the Case may be, shall, at or before the Time of signing such Contract, by their joint and several Bond, with a Penalty in not less than the Amount of One Half of the Assessment to the Poors Rate of such Parish or united Parishes for the Year next but one preceding the Year in which such Contract shall be entered into, give Security to the said Churchwardens and Overseers, as the Case may be, for the true and faithful Observance and Performance of such Contract on the Part and Behalf of the Person or Persons so to be contracted with as aforesaid; nor unless such Contract shall be approved of and signed by Two Justices of the Peace acting for such County, City, Riding, or District, in which such Parish or united Parishes, or One of them, shall be situated.

No Contract to be valid, unless the Person with whom the same is made be resident in the Parish in which the Poor shall be maintained;

nor unless One or more respectable Housekeepers shall be Security on Behalf of the Contractor, for the due Performance of the Contract.

II. And be it further enacted, That all such Contracts as aforesaid, which shall be entered into otherwise than according to the Regulations and Restrictions herein-before contained, shall be absolutely null and void to all Intents and Purposes; and every such Contract which shall be entered into conformably to the Directions of this Act, by any Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish, with any Person or Persons who shall remove from and cease to reside in the particular Parish or in One of the united Parishes wherein such Poor shall be lodged and maintained, before the Expiration of the whole Term or Time for which such Contract shall be intended to have Continuance, shall also from the Time of such Removal cease and determine: Provided always, that the Removal of such Person or Persons as aforesaid shall not vacate the Security entered into by any Householder or Householders as aforesaid, for the true Observance and Performance of the Contract of such Person or Persons so having contracted and removing, but that the same shall continue in full force for the Indemnification of the Churchwardens and Overseers of such Parish or united Parishes against any Loss or Expence incurred in consequence of such Non-performance of such Contract and of such Removal:

Contracts entered into otherwise than according to the Regulations herein contained shall be void.

Removal of Contractor not to vacate the Security.

Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to any Pariſh, Townſhip or Place where the Poor are maintained under any ſpecial Act of Parliament: Provided alſo, that nothing in this Act contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to make void any Contract that ſhall have been entered into before the paſſing of this Act with any Perſon or Perſons for the lodging, keeping, maintaining, or employing of the Poor of any Pariſh, by virtue or in purſuance of the ſaid Act of the Ninth Year of King *George* the Firſt aforeſaid; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Not to extend where Poor are maintained under a ſpecial Act.

Contracts entered into before paſſing this Act not to be affected.

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