

appear, but shall be unable to discover any Estate or Effects of the Prisoner omitted in such his or her petition, or to shew any sufficient probability of his or her having been forsworn in the said Oath ; then the said Court shall immediately cause the said Prisoner to be discharged, upon such Assignment of his or her Effects in manner as aforesaid, unless such Creditor or Creditors do insist upon his or her being longer detained in Prison at their Suit, and do agree by Writing, under his, her, or their Hands to supply and allow, weekly, the said Quantity of *Eight Pounds* of good and wholesome Biscuit, or Bread, unto the said Prisoner, to be supplied and allowed the first day of every Week, so long as he or she shall or may continue in Gaol at his, her, or their Suit : And on failure of supplying the said Weekly Allowance at any time, the said Prisoner shall forthwith, upon Application to the said Court, or during the Intervals of such Court's Sittings, to any two Justices of the said Court, be immediately thereupon discharged by such Order as aforesaid. But in case the said Prisoner shall refuse to take the said Oath, or, having taken the same, shall be detected of Falsity therein, he or she shall be presently remanded, and be further punished therefor in due Course of Law.

VI. *And* to prevent persons who may be charged in Execution, or confined upon any Writ or other process as aforesaid, from lying in Prison until they have spent their Substance wherewith they should satisfy their Creditors, and afterwards taking the benefit of this Act, where they have nothing left to deliver up to their Creditors:

*It is hereby further enacted*, That no person charged, or to be charged, in Execution, or confined upon any Writ or other process as aforesaid, excepting those already in Gaol or Prison, shall be allowed or permitted to exhibit a petition to any of the Courts of Law which now are, or hereafter shall or may be established in this Island, or to either of the said two Justices of such Courts, from whence the process issued, as is before provided, unless such petition be exhibited, if before the Court, within

Preamble.

Time limited for Prisoners to present Petition.