

**An Act to Prevent the Sale of
Transportation of Negroes & Molattoes Out
of this State (1786)**

Source (date, author, audience)

Whereas by the constitution of this State all the subjects of this Commonwealth of whatever colour are equally entitled to the inestimable blessings of Freedom unless they have forfeited the same by the commission of some crime, and the Idea of Slavery is expressly and totally exploded from our free Government.

Key Words:

Summary:

And whereas Instances have happened of the former owners of Negroes in this Commonwealth making sale of such persons as Slaves notwithstanding their being liberated by the Constitution, and attempts have been made to transport such persons to foreign parts in open violation of the Laws of the Land.

Key Words:

Summary:

Be it therefore enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont that if any person shall hereafter make sale of any subject of this State or shall convey or attempt to convey any subject out of this State with intent to hold or sell such person as a Slave every person so offending and convicted thereof shall forfeit and pay to the person injured for such offence the sum of **£100** and cost of suit to be recovered by action of debt or complaint or Information.

Key Words:

Summary: