



# Parliamentary Privilege Act 1770

1770 CHAPTER 50 10 Geo 3

An Act for the further preventing Delays of Justice by reason of Privilege of Parliament.

Preamble.

Whereas the several laws heretofore made for restraining the privilege of Parliament with respect to actions or suits commenced and prosecuted at any time from and immediately after the dissolution or prorogation of any Parliament until a new Parliament should meet, or the same be reassembled, and from and immediately after an adjournment of both Houses of Parliament for above the space of fourteen days, until both houses should meet or assemble, are insufficient to obviate the inconveniences arising from the delay of suits by reason of privilege of Parliament, whereby the parties often lose the benefit of several terms: For the preventing all delays the King or his subjects may receive in prosecuting their several rights, titles, debts, dues, demands, or suits for which they have cause,

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

C1 Short title given by [Short Titles Act 1896 \(c. 14\)](#)

- [1.] **After 24 June, 1770, Suits may be prosecuted in Courts of Record, Equity, or Admiralty, and Courts having Cognizance of Causes Matrimonial and Testamentary, against Peers, and Members of the House of Commons, and their Servants, &c.**

Any person or persons shall and may at any time commence and prosecute any action or suit in any court of record or court of equity or of admiralty, and in all causes matrimonial and testamentary, in any court having cognizance of causes matrimonial and testamentary, against any peer or lord of Parliament of Great Britain, or against any of the knights, citizens, and burgesses, and the commissioners for shires and burghs of the House of Commons of Great Britain for the time being, or against their or any of their menial or any other servants, or any other person intitled to the privilege of Parliament of Great Britain; and no such action, suit, or any other process

---

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Parliamentary Privilege Act 1770. (See end of Document for details)*

---

or proceeding thereupon shall at any time be impeached, stayed, or delayed by or under colour or pretence of any privilege of Parliament.

**2 But the Persons of Members of the House of Commons not to be arrested or imprisoned.**

Provided nevertheless, that nothing in this Act shall extend to subject the person of any of the knights, citizens, and burgesses, or the commissioners of shires and burghs of the House of Commons of Great Britain for the time being, to be arrested or imprisoned upon any such suit or proceedings.

**3.—4.** ..... <sup>F1</sup>

.....  
**Textual Amendments**  
**F1** Ss. 3, 4 repealed by [Civil Procedure Acts Repeal Act 1879 \(c. 59\)](#)

**5** ..... <sup>F2</sup>

.....  
**Textual Amendments**  
**F2** S. 5 repealed by [Administration of Justice Act 1965 \(c. 2\)](#) Sch. 2

**6 This Act to extend to Scotland.**

And . . . <sup>F3</sup> this Act shall extend to Scotland.

.....  
**Textual Amendments**  
**F3** Words repealed by [Statute Law Revision Act 1871 \(c. 116\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Parliamentary Privilege Act 1770.