

Petition to the General Assembly

To the Honorable the Representatives of the Freeman of The Delaware State
in General Assembly met.

The Petition of divers Inhabitants of Sussex County
Humbly Sheweth

That the sufferings of your Constituents
in general thro the State and in this County in particular, for several years
past, from the Scarcity of Cash, the number of Debts both Public & Private
necessarily contracted during the late War and the consequent increase
of Taxes, have reduced many of the Good People of this County to the lowest
State of Misery and want.

That so far from any prospect of Relief We
find the Evil rapidly increasing, becoming more dreadful in its appear-
ance and more destructive in its effects. Our property is sold, and many
of the virtuous but poor inhabitants of the County with large and helpless
families, are turned out of Doors by their merciless and unfeeling
creditors who frequently purchase their property at a third, fourth or
fifth part of its real value.

Knowing that your Honors were intimately
acquainted with our declining and ruinous circumstances, We have
for several months looked up to our Representatives in Assembly
with confidence of support and Relief. Unwilling to dictate to your
Honors; We have for a long time remained, in silent expectation; but
necessity has at length conditioned us to p· tition and beseech your Honors,
in the most pressing and urgent manner, to grant your distressed Consti-
tuants the only relief which now remains and which alone can save
the State from Ruin, Anarchy & Destruction.

That we allude to the Emission of a paper
currency must evidently appear to your Honors. We trust to an
Assembly of your Wisdom and Integrity it will be unnecessary to point
out the particular mode of emitting it. We suppose with deference
to the Judgment of our worthy Representatives that the usual method by
Loan will appear both convenient and practicable.

Resting therefore in a firm Reliance that your
Honors will grant the above mentioned or some other relief. We trust and
Hope