

## **“The Petition of the People of Colour of the State [of South Carolina],” April 30, 1794**

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To the honorable, the Representative of S<sup>c</sup> Carolina

the Petition of the People of Colour of the state aforesaid who are under the act intituled an Act for imposing a poll tax on all free Negroes, Musteez and Mulatoes.—

most humbly sheweth

that whereas (we your humble petitioners) having the honor of being your Citizens, as also free and willing to advance for the support of Government anything that might not be prejudicial to us, it being well known that we have not been backward on our part, in performing any other public duties that hath fell in the compass of our knowledge,

We therefore, being sensibly griev'd at our present situation, also having frequently discovered the many distresses, occasion'd by your Act imposing the poll tax, such as widows with large families, & women scarcely able to support themselves, being frequently followed & payment extorted by your tax gatherers—

these considerations on our part hath occasioned us, to give you this trouble, requesting your deliberate body, to repeal an Act so truly mortifying to your distress'd petitioners—for which favor your petitioners will ever acknowledge, & devoutly pray—

Isaac Linagear  
Isaac Mitchell  
Jonathan Price  
Nathan Price  
Richard Ivins  
Nathaniel Carbie  
Samuel Collins  
William x Turner  
Thomas Shulon  
Spencer x Bolton  
William x Swett  
Solomon x Bolton  
James Shewmak  
John x Turner  
Solomon x Shewmk  
Sampson x Shewmak  
Thomas x Shewmak  
Thomas x Shumake  
John x Shumake  
James x Shumake  
David Collins  
Thomas Collins  
John x Turner  
Mildred x Turner  
Penelope x Turner  
Cathrine x Turner  
Elias Simeon  
Chadworth Oxendine  
Peter x Colden

Moses x Colden  
Delley Gibson  
Drusilla Gibson  
Georg Mccloud

(April 30, 1794)

*Source: Petition of the People of Colour: Manuscript, General Assessment Petition 1794, No. 216, Frames 370–74, Free People of Color ST 1368, Series S165015, Item 216, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.*