

## **A Petition on Behalf of a Slave Accused of Treason, 7 June 1781**

To the honble the Speaker & Gentlemen of the House of Delegates,

The Petition of Mann Page one of the Executors of the Will of John Tayloe Esqr deceased, humbly sheweth, that Billy, alias Will alias William, a Mulatto Slave, late the Property of the said John Tayloe, was condemned to die for Treason by the Judgment of the Court of Prince William County; but upon Representation of the Proceedings of the said Court being made to his Excellency Thomas Jefferson Esqr the then Governour of Virginia, a Reprieve was obtained for the said Slave 'till the last Day of the present Month. Your Petitioner sensible that a Pardon for Treason can only be obtaine granted by the Legislature, begs that he may be heard before a Committee on Behalf of the said Slave.

*Citation: Petition of Mann Page on the Behalf of Billy, June 7, 1781. Legislative Petitions, Prince William Co., n.d. [Received June 7, 1781], Record Group 78, Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.*