

To the Honorable Council, and
To the Honorable the House of Representatives of
the State of Massachusetts. say:

The petition of Zechariah Mayhew of Chilmark
in the County of Duke's county; humbly sheweth;
That your petitioner having for many years been
employed as a Missionary to the Indians dispersed
thro the Island of Martha's Vineyard, he has, as a
minister of the gospel, been exempted from taxes
till the year 1777, when the Assessors of Chilmark
taxed a farm which he has under his own care and
cultivation, and without the benefit of which, his
[*crossed out*] salary would by no means support his family:
That he thereupon applied to the General Court of this
State for relief, which, they in their wisdom and good=
ness saw fit to grant, by a Resolve ordering the said
assessors to discharge him of said tax: That notwith=
standing said Resolve the Assessors of said Town have
taxed his estate in the assessment of the year ¹⁷⁷⁸ He
therefore prays that this Honorable Court would be pleased
to take his case into consideration, and, if they see fit,
order him to be discharged of the tax already assessed
on him, and also secure him against any future
demands of this sort, as long as he shall continue
in his present office. And

Your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall every pray
Zechariah Mayhew

Boston June 2.^d 1779.

Please to turn over.

[verso:

Your Petitioner does not desire that such land as
he may hire should be exempted from taxation
He hires a farm belonging to the Society in
Great Britain, whose ~~employ~~ missionary he is, for
which he willingly pays rates

[folio 2: blank

[verso:

Rev^d Zach. Mayhew

M^r Cranch
M^r Phelps
Maj [B]
Capt Batchelder

June 8. 1779

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