

# WARRANT AGAINST NEUTRALITY

Major-General Sir William Waller (c. 1598–1668), Parliamentary Commander in the West  
Sussex, 15 April 1644

Being entrusted by both Houses of Parliament to do our utmost to preserve the peace of this County and to defend it from the enemy, we hold it our duty not to omit the least means tending thereunto. And finding by experience that there are some men that neither regard the miserable condition of our brethren in other counties, the present danger of their own, nor the cause of God, but do go on in a way of neutrality.

To the intent that all may know how detestable such persons are, we are constrained to declare that whosoever has or shall continue in such neutrality and not show themselves forward for the maintenance of the common cause—tending to the advancement of God’s glory, the Parliament’s service, and the Kingdom’s good—we shall take them for no other than enemies to the state, and men accordingly to be proceeded against.

John Webb, ed. *Military Memoir of Colonel John Birch* (Westminster: Nichols, 1873):217.