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Decree
of the Council of State
of the King
Concerning the Negro Policy
of 8th September 1776
Extract from the Registers of
the Council of State

The King having deemed it appropriate, by his Letters patent of the 3rd of this month, and for the causes contained therein, to ordain that there be a suspension in the judgment of all questions (cases) concerning Negroes of one or the other sex, until His Majesty shall have made known his intentions through a new Regulation; wishing to provide for which: Hear ye the report; The King Being in His Council, has ordained and ordains that the different memoirs that have been presented to His Majesty on the subject of the age and condition of the Negroes that the inhabitants of the colonies are accustomed to bring to France for their service, and rules that it is fitting to follow in that regard, will be placed in the hands of *Sieur Chardon*, Master of Petitions, whom His Majesty has appointed for that purpose in order that after he has communicated regarding it with *Sieurs d'Aguesseau Joly de Fleury, de Bernage Taboureau, and le Noir*, Councillors of State, whom His Majesty has likewise appointed, and after its having been heard by *Sieur Poncet la Grave*, Solicitor of His Majesty at the Seat of the Admiralty of Paris, there be, in the report of the said *Sieur Chardon*, proposed to His Majesty such draft of Regulation as he may approve. Done in the Council of State of the King, His Majesty being there, held at Versailles the eighth of September seventeen hundred seventy-six.

(Signed) De Sartine

At Paris
In The Royal Printing Office