



Treason Act (Ireland) 1703 [I]

1703 CHAPTER 5 2 Ann

Succession to the crown by said acts limited, after death of King William and Princess Anne without issue, to Princess Sophia of Hanover and heirs of her body being protestants.

Forasmuch as the future security of your Majesty's protestant subjects of this kingdom doth (next under God) depend upon the safety of your Majesty's royal person (whom God long preserve to reign over us) and upon the succession in the protestant line, as the same is limited by an act of Parliament passed in England, intituled, ^{M1}“The Bill of Rights”; and by one other act made in England in the twelfth year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the third of blessed memory, intituled, “The ^{M2}Act of Settlement”; by which it is enacted, “That the imperial crown and government of the kingdoms of England, France, and Ireland, and of the dominions thereunto belonging, with the royal state and dignity of the said realms, and all honours, styles, titles, regalities, prerogatives, powers, jurisdictions and authorities to the same belonging and appertaining, should, after the deceases of his said Majesty, and of her then royal highness the princess Anne of Denmark (our now most gracious sovereign lady Queen Anne) without issue of her body, and for default of issue of her said Majesty and of his said Majesty respectively, be, remain, and continue to the most excellent princess Sophia electoress and dutchess dowager of Hanover, daughter of the most excellent princess Elizabeth, late Queen of Bohemia, daughter of our late sovereign lord King James the first of happy memory, and the heirs of her body, being protestants:” and forasmuch as it most manifestly appears that the papists of this kingdom, and other disaffected persons, do still entertain hopes of disappointing the said succession, as the same stands limited:

Marginal Citations

M1 [1688 c. 2.](#)

M2 [1700 c.2.](#)

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M1 [1688 c. 2.](#)

M2 [1700 c.2.](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the [Treason Act \(Ireland\) 1703 \[1\]](#). (See end of Document for details)

[I.] High treason to endeavour to disappoint the same by any overt act or deed.

For prevention whereof if any person or persons at any time . . . ^{F1} shall endeavour to deprive or hinder any person, who shall be the next in succession to the crown for the time being, according to the limitations in the before recited acts mentioned, from succeeding after the decease of her Majesty (whom God long preserve) to the imperial crown of England, and the dominions and territories thereunto belonging, accordig to the limitations in the beforementioned acts: (that is to say) such issue of her Majesty's body as shall from time to time be next in succession to the crown, if it shall please God to bless her Majesty with issue; and during the time her sacred Majesty shall have no issue, the princess Sophia, electoress and dutchess dowager of Hanover, and the heirs males of her body, being protestants; and after the decease of the said princess Sophia, the next in succession to the crown for the time being, according to the limitation of the said acts; and the same maliciously, advisedly, and directly shall attempt by any overt act or deed, every such offence shall be adjudged high treason, and the offender or offenders therein, their abettors, procurers and comforters, knowing the said offences to be done, being thereof convicted or attainted, according to the laws and statutes of this realm, shall be deemed and adjudged traytors, and shall [^{F2}be liable to imprisonment for life], and all losses, and forfeitures, as in cases of high treason.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words repealed by Statute law [Revision Act 1953 \(2 & 3 Eliz. 2 c. 5\)](#), [Sch. 2](#)
- F2** Words in [s. 1](#) substituted (30.9.1998) by [1998 c. 37, s. 36\(2\)\(d\)](#); S.I. 1998/2327, [art. 2\(1\)\(g\)](#)

II ^{F3}

Textual Amendments

- F3** [S. 2](#) repealed by [Treason Act 1945 \(c. 44\)](#), [Sch.](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the [Treason Act \(Ireland\) 1703 \[I\]](#).