

INTERIM RULING

re: Voting Rights of a Chancellor

requested by the Kingdom of Aragon Estates Codicils Committee

Current Law

Article VI. I. Limitation of Votes.

A member shall be limited to a maximum of one (1) vote granted by any and all non-landed titles and/or ranks. In addition, a member shall be limited to one (1) vote granted by landed representation. There shall be no limit to the number of votes that are granted by proxy. For the purposes of this section, second and third level knighthood shall be considered non-landed voting ranks.

Article VII. F. 1. Chancellor.

In the event of a tie vote, the Chancellor shall cast the deciding vote. This is the only time the Chancellor shall be allowed to vote.

Interpretation

Article VI. I. clearly defines the number and types of votes members may hold. Article VII. F. 1. identifies a special vote unique to the role of the Chair and specifies when that vote may be cast. In ordinary parliamentary procedure often the presiding officer may vote either to create or break a tie, thus the presiding officer votes to effect the outcome. In Adria, where the presiding officer may be and often is a regular voting member of the body it would be unreasonable for those Estates to sacrifice their representation and the Chancellor's vote is limited to tie breaking. Article VII. F. 1. creates a vote for a limited purpose which exists separate from, and in addition to any vote that the officer himself may hold. Nor can it be read to exclude proxies properly entrusted to that officer. The distinction is between the office of Chancellor and the officer himself who may hold any number of votes in accord with Article VI. I.

Ruling

Article VII. F. 1. does not apply to the votes a Chancellor may be granted by their landed or non-landed estates or proxies the officer holds (this is further addressed in the Imperial Chancellor's Manual).

In Service,
Sir William Baine, Chancellor, Adria
February 11, 2002