

CAROLUS II & XIII

ROYO Y IMPERAD

A.S. 320

AUGUST, 2024

No.9 of 2024

An Act relating to the Peerage of the Dominion of Carolusburg

Assented to on the #th of Month, Year

E IT ENACTED, by the Office of the Prime Minister of the Dominion of Carolusburg, with the advice and consent of the Royal Carodian Parliament thereof, as follows:

The Purpose of the Peerage

1. The origins of the Dominion of Carolusburg trace back to the Aurean Empire and its motherland, the New Sarovian Empire, where an upper aristocratic class has always been prominent, characterized by wealth and nobility. Since the inception of the Aurean Empire in 2016, titles such as the Dauphin eui Aurea, Archdukes, Dukes, and others have been bestowed upon the most fervent Aurean supporters and close family members of the Aurean Lords. The old Aurean aristocracy was ultimately abolished following the Annexation of the Aurean Empire by the Dominion of Carolusburg. This pivotal moment marked the beginning of the necessary codification and establishment of official legislation pertaining to the Peerage of the Dominion of Carolusburg and Aurea. The establishment of this new legislative framework was essential to ensure the continuity and proper recognition of noble titles within the Dominion. The consolidation of noble ranks under the Dominion's jurisdiction allowed for a more structured and formalized system of aristocracy, preserving the heritage and prestige associated with these titles. The transition also facilitated the integration of noble traditions and practices from both the Aurean Empire and the New Sarovian Empire, creating a unified and cohesive noble class that reflects the historical and cultural legacy of these regions.

The reformation of the peerage system was not merely an administrative necessity but also a symbolic gesture, reaffirming the Dominion of Carolusburg's commitment to honoring its aristocratic roots while adapting to contemporary governance needs. The codification process involved meticulous documentation of noble lineages, titles, and privileges, ensuring that the noble class's contributions and status are formally acknowledged and respected. Through this legislative evolution, the Dominion of Carolusburg and Aurea aims to uphold the values of nobility, loyalty, and service that have long been integral to its identity, fostering a sense of continuity and tradition amidst the changing tides of history.

Patriation of the Assembly of Peers in Carodia

- 2. Considering the Carodian nobility has grown significantly since the founding of the Dominion of Carolusburg, Acknowledging that the Assembly of Peers has, in turn, grown substantially since then and; that the Carodian economy, and the general wealth of our citizens has grown sufficiently to accommodate new lords and ladies; Whereas the Sarovian nobility retains a presence and thus the ability to dictate a degree of Carodian affairs, it is necessary that the Carodian Assembly of Peers be retained for Carodians only.
 - A) Nobles with holdings in New Sarovia necessarily and not Carolusburg shall henceforth no longer retain any position within the Carodian Assembly of Peers;
 - B) Nobles with holdings in both Sarovia and Carolusburg shall retain their position in the Carodian Assembly of Peers;
 - C) Nobles with holdings in only Carolusburg shall retain their position in the Carodian Assembly of Peers.

Qualifications for New Nobles in Carodia and a Seat in the Assembly of Peers

3. In order for Carodians to qualify for the privilege to purchase a Carodian holding and title, they must have resided in Carodia for a minimum of two months before purchase and have had their ennobling conferred in a Letter Patent by the King or Governor-General. The two-month minimum residency qualification is moot if holdings are awarded expressly by the King or Governor-General.

Precedence of the Nobility

4. In the Dominion of Carolusburg and Aurea, there are seven official titles in the nobility, which vary in several ways, there may be hereditary titles and others may not, and some are granted for different reasons. These are, in descending order of precedence:

a) Dauphin eui Carodia-Aurea

The title of Dauphin, or in its feminine form, Dauphine, is bestowed upon the son or daughter of the sovereign of the Dominion and its other Realms. This title signifies a high status of nobility and a privileged position in the line of succession to the throne. The Dauphin or Dauphine is to be addressed with the utmost deference and respect, being officially referred to as His or Her Royal Highness. This title not only acknowledges the exalted position of the heir apparent but also entails significant responsibilities, including representing the crown at official events, engaging in state affairs, and ongoing preparation to eventually assume the duties of the throne. The conferral of this title is a symbol of continuity and stability within the reigning dynasty, reflecting the importance of orderly succession and the preservation of monarchical traditions and values.

b) Dukes of the Dominion

Second in precedence are Dukes, or in the feminine form, Duchesses, known in High Sarovian as *Duc/Ducesse*. Often awarded to retired members of the House of Vasa or former monarchs, Dukes hold the most senior titles outside of the royal/imperial family and come with significant benefits. Upon conferment of the title, all Dukes are awarded large estates by virtue of their title to continue generating income. Dukes often hold two titles: a duchy and a lesser title known as a courtesy title, which their heir may use formally (without voting powers).

c) Marquis of the Dominion

Marquis are third in precedence. Marquis are senior members of the Assembly of Peers, and wield considerable power and influence. Marquis are also awarded estates by virtue of their title, though of a lesser extent than dukes, and may also hold a courtesy title.

d) Counts of the Dominion

Counts are fourth in precedence, and are known in High Sarovian as *Comeze/Comezess*. Counts are senior members of the Assembly of Peers, and wield considerable power and influence. Counts are also awarded estates by virtue of their title, though of a lesser extent than Marquis, and may also hold a courtesy title.

e) Viscounts of the Dominion

Viscounts are the fifth title in precedence, and in High Sarovian are *Visarle/Visarlesse*. Pronounced vie-count in English, these titles are hereditary like all other noble titles (except knighthoods), and are the last title in which the incumbent receives both an estate and the privilege to use a courtesy title. Viscount is a middle of the road peerage. The name of the title is usually a famous battlefield location, a great achievement that the original recipient achieved, or of prominent families. They are addressed as *Lady/Lord*.

f) Vidames of the Dominion

The title of Vidame ranks sixth in precedence and is a relatively rare nobility title within the Auro-Carodian system. This title is integrated into the hierarchical structure of nobility and is considered equivalent to that of a Viscount. The Vidame, as a noble title, holds a distinct status within the aristocratic structure, recognized for its rarity and the prestige associated with it. The title is often conferred upon individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service to the crown or to the administration of the realm, reflecting a position of importance and respect. They are addressed as *Lady/Lord*.

g) Baronets of the Dominion

The title of Baronet is a non-hereditary title within the Carodian Assembly of Peers, typically bestowed in recognition of long service and brave deeds. This title is distinguished by its non-hereditary nature, meaning it does not pass automatically to the descendants of the titleholder. The conferral of the Baronet title is a significant honor that reflects the official acknowledgment of the individual's exceptional contributions and exemplary conduct in service to the crown or the state.

Eligibility of Old Titles

- 5. All defunct members of the nobility may petition His Majesty the King to be inducted into the Peerage. They must have valid proof, or historical documents, of their former noble titles. Valid proof may include:
 - a) Proof of inheritance or a sale;
 - b) A will;
 - c) A photo of you being granted the title;
 - d) And others.

This petition may not be exercised if the title was intentionally dissolved by the King, and the King has full discretion, often on the advice of His Government, to reject or accept said petitions.

Eligibility to Attend the Assembly of Peers

- 6. All of the following titles are able to enter the Assembly of Peers:
 - a) The Governor-General;
 - b) The Dauphin eui Carodia y Aurea;
 - c) All Dukes of the Dominion;
 - d) All Marquis of the Dominion;
 - e) All Counts of the Dominion;
 - f) All Viscounts of the Dominion;
 - g) All Vidames of the Dominion;
 - h) All Baronets of the Dominion;
 - i) All Knights of the Most Noble Order of the New Sarovian Empire (OSE) as *life-members*;
 - j) All Knights of the Most Exalted Grand Order of the Vasas (OV) as *life-members*;
 - k) All Knights of the Grand Order of the Bull (OB) as *life-members*.

Likewise, the Prime Minister of the Royal Parliament is able to enter the Assembly only to address the Assembly, and His Majesty is able to enter the Assembly and dissolve it at any moment.

Process of the Assembly of Peers

7. The Assembly of Peers shall strive to meet immediately after any meetings of the House of Commons. The traditional meeting locations are Royal Parliament, Pesitpais Avenue 2, or Escora Hall on rare occasions. It may also be held online on the permission of the Lord-Speaker. The Lord-Speaker may, with the advice and consent of the King and the Governor-General, reschedule Peers meetings at will as necessary. Liberal Peers are to sit on one side of the room and conservative Peers on the other; the King is allowed to attend. The Assembly of Peers may and shall be partisan.

Quorum will be the same percentage as in the Commons, as well the percentage needed to affirm a bill. When a bill is brought up, all Peers may speak freely on it, within reason; the Lord-Speaker is to merely lead discussion and keep order but must promote free discussion amongst the members, in contrast to the heavily guided and rule bound nature of Commons meetings. When the Lord-Speaker believes it expedient to call a vote, he may do so, regardless of whether discussion has died down or not. The Lord-Speaker must also promote proper etiquette in meetings of the Peers.

The King may choose to order the Speaker of the House of Commons to send a bill that has passed the Commons directly to him for assent, as opposed to going through the Peers first before said assent, in matters the King deems necessary for this bypassage. This may be overturned by a unanimous vote in the Assembly of Peers, which then brings the bill to the Peerage. In contrast to the Speaker, who is elected by Parliament from amongst itself and confirmed by the Kingr, the Lord-Speaker is elected by the Assembly of Peers, though can only be dismissed by the King or Governor-General.

Inheritance of Noble Titles

8. All members of the nobility with an hereditary title will pass on that title to their next of kin, or to another member of the family should a will be signed. Should no will be signed before the passing of an individual with titles, including family heads, all titles will be handed to the oldest surviving member of the family. Should no surviving members of the family exist, all titles will be given to the Crown to be distributed.

Peerage Contribution

9. As in the motherland, Sarovia, the Peers of the Dominion will be obligated to present a cultural contribution to the Dominion each Stefanic year (equivalent to one month). This requirement aims to strengthen cultural ties and promote the ongoing cultural enrichment of society. The cultural contribution may take various forms, including but not limited to:

- a) Arts;
- b) Poems;
- c) Books;
- d) GFX;
- e) TC;
- f) Among others.