



# Piracy Act 1698

1698 CHAPTER 7 11 Will 3

An Act for the more effectuall Suppression of Piracy.

*Rot parl. III Gul. III p. 2. n. 5*

## **Recital of Stat 28 Hen. VIII. c. 15 § 1. ; Reasons for passing this Act**

Whereas by the Offences at Sea Act 1536 it is enacted that Treasons Felonies Robberies Murthers and Confederacies committed on the Sea shall be enquired of tryed and determined according to the common Course of the Laws of this Land used for such Offences upon the Land within this Realme whereupon the Triall of those Offenders before the Admirall or his Lieutenant or his Commissary hath bene altogether disused And whereas that since the making of the said Act and especially of late Yeares it hath bene found by experience That Persons committing Piracies Robberies and Felonies on the Seas in or neare the East and West Indies and in Places very remote cannot be brought to condign Punishment without great Trouble and Charges in sending them into England to be tryd within the Realme as the said Statute directs insomuch that many idle and profligate Persons have bene thereby encouraged to turne Pirates and betake themselves to that sort of wicked Life trusting that they shall not or at least cannot easily be questioned for such their Piracies and Robberies by reason of the great Trouble and Expence that will necessarily fall upon such as shall attempt to apprehend and prosecute them for the same And whereas the Numbers of them are of late very much increased and their Insolencies soe great that unlesse some speedy Remedy be provided to suppress them by a strict and more easie way for putting the ancient Laws in that behalfe in Execution the Trade and Navigation into remote Parts will very much suffer thereby

### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

C1 Short title given by [Statute Law Revision Act 1948 \(c. 62\)](#), [Sch. 2](#)

### **Commencement Information**

II Act wholly in force at Royal Assent

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Piracy Act 1698 (repealed 5.11.1993), Introductory Text.