

That imperial directions in public affairs shall not be in force unless they have been or are filed for record with the glorious praetorian prefect and confirmed by him.

(Ne sacrae formae quae de publicis procedunt aliter valeant nisi si gloriosissimis praefectis praetorio insinuatæ fuerint vel insinuentur et inde confirmentur.)

---

The same Augustus (Justinian) to Johannes, glorious praetorian prefect.

Preface.

As we are zealous to administer, with God's help, the affairs of the empire, entrusted to us by God, we direct that an(imperial) order concerning public affairs, directed to the magnificent duke or to the Augustal (prefect) or to the honorable presidents of the provinces shall not be valid unless it is first filed for record in the office of Your Sublimity, and those not so filed shall not be valid. For it would be absurd, that an imperial order on public affairs should not first be filed for record in the office of Your Sublimity, to be sent to the magnificent duke or Augustal or the presidents of the provinces only thereafter. Such imperial orders should first be filed for record in the office of Your Sublimity, and should only then be sent to the provinces and carried into effect.

c. 1. If anything, therefore, has hitherto been done which is detrimental to the state, we direct it to be void, and we ordain that hereafter every pragmatic order, whether directed, on public affairs, to the Augustal or duke or the presidents of the provinces, as already stated, shall in any event be filed for record in the office of Your Sublimity, and shall only be sent into the provinces, after, as stated, it is prefixed by the addition of an order of Your Sublimity. So whatever imperial directions, therefore, are not detrimental to the republic, you will accept and confirm by your orders, and they are then to be sent by Your Sublimity into the provinces, to be carried

(2)

Novel 152, cont'd.

into effect. You will indeed accept imperial orders, which are detrimental to the republic, and have been fraudulently obtained, but you must not carry anything contained therein into effect until you report to us, so that if anything detrimental to the republic has been done, it may be corrected. It, is, accordingly, our wish that any imperial pragmatic order issued in reference to public affairs which is not filed for record in the office of Your Sublimity shall have no force at any time.

Dated June 1, 534.

Note.

See also Novel 151, appended to C. 10,35,2 (after Novel 101) providing that an imperial order directing a curial or provincial apparitor to appear in court outside of his province, should be filed for record with the praetorian prefect.