



## ADVANCING AMERICAN FREEDOM

December 6, 2024

Dear [Member of Congress, Senator]

In recent years, the legitimacy of the Supreme Court as an impartial institution and non-political branch under our Constitution—exercising “neither force nor will but merely judgment”—has come under attack. From leaking draft opinions to threatening Justices and their families outside their homes, perhaps no attempt to influence judicial opinions would damage the Court’s integrity so much as the threat of court-packing.

With the recent election representing a resounding rejection of such proposals, it is time for Congress and the States to preserve the integrity and independence of the Supreme Court through a constitutional amendment limiting the number of Justices on the Court to nine.

Attempts to increase the number of Justices on the Court to achieve political ends used to be widely recognized as destructive of the institution. President Roosevelt’s court-packing plan was viewed by congressional Republicans and Democrats alike as destructive of the independence of the Court. Henry F. Ashurst—a Democratic Senator from Arizona and Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee at the time—is often credited with delaying the so-called judicial reform bill and ensuring the plan died in the Senate. In the latter half of the 20th century, then-Senator and Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee Joe Biden described court-packing as a “bone-head idea” and stated that it would call into question the independence of the Supreme Court “for an entire decade.”

Only in the last few years has the bipartisan consensus against the threat of court-packing broken down. Now is the time to lower the temperature. Proponents of such proposals claim it will restore the Court’s integrity, but nothing could be further from the truth.

For a modern example of how court-packing can destroy judicial independence and transform the judiciary into a political pawn, one need look no further than Venezuela. Hugo Chávez’s court-packing scheme transformed that nation’s highest court into a political arm that today supports the dictatorial excesses of Nicolás Maduro.

An amendment limiting the number of justices to nine would preserve the court’s integrity and ensure that it will not be used as a political tool growing with every change in political power. We ask you to cosponsor [S.J.Res.21 / H.J.Res.8], the Keep Nine Amendment, and begin the constitutional amendment process to ensure the independence of the Court and the liberties of the people it was created to protect.

Thank you,

J. Marc Wheat  
General Counsel  
Advancing American Freedom

Roman Buhler  
Director  
Keep Nine Coalition

Kristan Hawkins  
President  
Students for Life Action

Victor E. Bernson  
General Counsel  
Young America's Foundation

Gary L. Bauer  
President  
American Values

Daniel Darling  
Director  
Land Center for Cultural Engagement

Ralph Reed  
Founder and Chairman  
Faith & Freedom Coalition

Star Parker  
Founder  
Center for Urban Renewal and Education

Ashley Baker  
Executive Director  
The Committee for Justice

C. Preston Noell III  
President  
Tradition, Family, Property, Inc.

Saulius "Saul" Anuzis  
President  
American Association of Senior Citizens

Jay D. Homnick  
Senior Fellow, Project Sentinel  
Fmr. Dep. Editor, The American Spectator

Jenny Beth Martin  
Honorary Chairman  
Tea Party Patriots Action

Allan Parker  
President  
The Justice Foundation

Sean Noble  
President  
American Encore

Kristen A. Ullman  
President  
Eagle Forum

Penny Nance  
CEO  
Concerned Women for America LAC

Walker Wildmon  
CEO  
AFA Action

Mike Farris  
General Counsel  
National Religious Broadcasters

Cole Muzio  
President  
Frontline Policy Action

Phil Kerpen  
President  
American Commitment

Richard Manning  
President  
Americans for Limited Government

Tami L. Fitzgerald, J.D.  
Executive Director  
NC Values Coalition

James L. Martin  
Founder/Chairman  
60 Plus Association

Alfredo Ortiz  
CEO  
Job Creators Network

Charlie Gerow  
CEO, Quantum Communications  
Former Vice Chairman, CPAC

J. Christian Adams  
President  
Public Interest Legal Foundation

Joan Holt Lindsey  
President  
Lindsey Communications

Frank Ricci  
Fellow of Labor & Special Initiatives  
Yankee Institute

Tim Jones  
Fmr. Speaker, Missouri House  
Chairman, Missouri Center-Right Coalition

Jeffrey Barrows, DO, MA (Ethics)  
Senior VP, Bioethics and Public Policy  
Christian Medical & Dental Associations

Dan Greenberg  
General Counsel  
Competitive Enterprise Institute

Dave Kubal  
CEO  
Intercessors for America

E. Calvin Beisner, Ph.D.  
President  
Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation

Richard Allen  
JCCWatch.org

Seton Motley  
Founder & President  
Less Government

Ryan Ellis  
President  
Center for a Free Economy

Jacob J. Curtis  
General Counsel  
Institute for Reforming Government

Rev. Dale Witherington  
Chief Steward  
Restore Minnesota

Suzi Voyles  
President  
Eagle Forum of Georgia

Brice Futch  
Executive Director  
Stand for Georgia Values Action

Sam Aaron  
Research Director  
South Carolina Policy Council

R.J. Schimenz  
President  
Center for Independent Thought

Paul Gessing  
President  
Rio Grande Foundation

George C. Landrith  
President  
Frontiers of Freedom

Sara Olson  
CAO  
Intercessors for America

Shawna L.M. Bolick  
Arizona State Senator, District 2

Brett Hagerman  
Setting Things Right

Kevin D. Freeman  
Founder  
NSIC Institute

Nate Dunning  
Chairman  
Young Conservatives of Texas

Maureen Blum  
Executive Director  
Catholics Count

Blaine Conzatti  
President  
Idaho Family Policy Center

Eunie Smith  
President  
Eagle Forum of Alabama

Carol Davis  
Chair  
Illinois Conservative Union

Jeff Bennett  
Executive Director  
Kansas Family Voice

Arthur A. Schulcz, Sr.  
Executive Director & General Counsel  
International Conference of Evangelical  
Chaplain Endorsers

Gerry Johnston  
Founder/CEO  
Men and Women for a Representative  
Democracy in America  
Women for Democracy in America

Ron Armstrong  
President  
Stand Up Michigan

Catherine Glenn Foster, M.A., J.D.  
President & CEO  
First Rights Global

Patrina Mosley  
Founder  
PPM Consulting, LLC

Phillip Jauregui  
Director  
Center for Judicial Renewal

Fred Birnbaum  
Director of Legislative Affairs  
Idaho Freedom Foundation  
Idaho Freedom Action

Ann Schockett  
Grassroots Executive Leader  
Keep 9 Constitutional Amendment Leader

Brandon Dutcher  
Senior Vice President  
Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs

Ron Pearson  
President  
Pearson & Pipkin, Inc.

Norman D. Stiegler Jr.  
CDR, US Navy (ret)  
Concerned Citizen