

Charles Downs KeepNine Outreach

Democracy in America relies on checks and balances. It is critical that the Supreme Court, one of the most important institutions that checks the power of Congress, and the executive branch remain completely judicially independent. Preserving the independence of the U.S. Supreme Court is not only an essential check on our American democratic system, but also is essential to preserving American democracy as a whole.

For the last 150 years, the Supreme Court of the United States has been composed of nine justices. If one political party in America's two-party system has the White House, and majorities in the House and Senate decide to add more than nine justices to the U.S. Supreme Court, breaking America's long standing tradition of a nine justice Supreme Court, it drastically increases the chances that the next time the minority party in this example has power, they will expand the U.S. Supreme Court thus turning the U.S. Supreme Court into a dangerous game of political nuclear football.

The Keep Nine Amendment that states: "the Supreme Court of the United States shall be composed of nine justices" puts an end to the dangerous threat of court packing. The American people by a 3-1 margin support the Keep Nine Amendment. U.S. Senators, Members of Congress, and State elected officials across the United States are hearing the American people's message on Keep Nine loud and clear. Currently, the Keep Nine Amendment is supported by a growing list of 19 U.S. Senators including Senator Portman, Governors including Governor Mike Dewine, Lieutenant Gov Jon Husted, 190 members of the United States Congress including Congressmen: Congressman Troy Balderson(R), Congressman David Joyce(R), Congressman Bob Gibbs(R), Congressman Steve Stivers(R), Congressman Brad Wenstrup(R), Congressman Steve Chabot(R), Congressman Bob Latta(R), Congressman Warren Davidson (R), Congressman Michael Turner(R), Congressman Bill Johnson (R) and David Joyce, and a large network of current and former state Attorney Generals, including Ohio AG Dave Yost and former Ohio A.G. Betty Montgomery. Other Ohio elected officials who have endorsed the Keep Nine Amendment include: Auditor Keith Faber (R), Secretary of State Frank LaRose(R), Treasurer Robert Sprague(R)

Now is time for the Ohio General Assembly to follow the will of the people and join Ohio's current/former political leaders in supporting the Keep Nine Amendment.