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SPONSOR TESTIMONY SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2
Senators Michael A. Rulli & Frank Hoagland
2/23/21

Chairman Manning and members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for allowing Senator Hoagland and myself to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution 2. Simply put, this resolution seeks to urge the United States Congress to adopt an amendment to the United States Constitution fixing the number of United States Supreme Court Justices at nine.

Democracy in America relies on checks and balances. It is critical that the Supreme Court, an essential institution that checks the power of Congress, and the executive branch, remain judicially independent. Preserving the independence of the U.S. Supreme Court is not only an essential check on our American democratic system but is also 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, they could add more than nine justices to the US. Supreme Court.

The Keep Nine Amendment states that: "the Supreme Court of the United States shall be composed of nine justices" and 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 Legislatures 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 15 U.S. Senators including Senator Portman, 60 members of the United States Congress including Congressmen: Bob Gibbs, Troy Balderson, and David Joyce, and a large network of current and former state Attorney Generals, including Ohio's Betty Montgomery.

Now is time for the Ohio State Senate to follow the will of the people and join Ohio's current/former political leaders in supporting the Keep Nine Amendment. Thank you for the opportunity to appear today in support of this resolution, I would be glad to answer any questions from the committee.