



# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 286: Urge Congress/Propose "Keep Nine" Amendment.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	May 5, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Penny, Clampitt	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Brian Gwyn*
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Joint Resolution 286 would urge Congress to maintain nine justices on the U. S. Supreme Court.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Article III of the U.S. Constitution vests the judicial power of the United States in the Supreme Court. Article II, Sec. 2 of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the President to nominate Supreme Court justices by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Constitution does not set the number of justices, but the Judiciary Act of 1869 provides that the Supreme Court consists of the chief justice and eight associate justices.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The resolution would urge Congress to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to require the Supreme Court to be made up of nine justices.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The resolution would be effective upon ratification.

*\*Jennifer Bedford, Staff Attorney with the Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*

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