

# THE SUPREME COURT POWER BILL

*Sponsored by Nissan Slomiansky, Ayelet Shaked, David Azoulay, and Benny Begin*

The Knesset Constitution Committee,

- Aware of the danger of an over-powerful Supreme Court,
- Recognizing that the Supreme Court is an unelected body,
- Further recognizing that the Supreme Court has often overturned the laws of the elected Knesset,
- Noting that the Supreme Court is very liberal and unrepresentative of the mixture of the Israeli population,
- Further noting that due to the appointment process, it is nearly impossible to appoint justices who disagree with the current liberal ones,
- Acknowledging the need to check single party rule, and to affirm democracy,

proposes the following changes:

1. Since the Supreme Court is currently imbalanced and unelected, the existing Supreme Court will be dissolved. **This is a one-time provision only.**
2. In order to create a new Supreme Court:
  - a. **Seven** justices will be appointed by the leader of the government.
  - b. **Seven** justices will be appointed by the leader of the opposition.
  - c. **One** justice will be presented by the Minister of Justice. This justice would need a 73 vote confirmation by the Knesset.
3. Hereafter, any further dissolution of the Supreme Court would be illegal, unless there is 90% agreement in the Knesset.
4. Supreme Court justices will have **tenure**, unless there is some gross negligence of office. In such a case, the Knesset will vote on their removal through a simple majority vote.
5. Whenever there is a **vacancy** in the Supreme Court (either through retirement or removal), further Supreme Court justices will be **appointed** by the democratically elected Prime Minister of Israel.
  - a. In order to receive **confirmation**, the justice will need a simple majority of votes in the Knesset.
6. The Supreme Court will have **jurisdiction** over the same number of cases.
7. The Knesset will be able to **overturn** Supreme Court decisions with a majority of 75 votes.