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BILL

further to amend the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1997

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Supreme Court (Number of judges) Act, 1997 (XXXIII of 1997), for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title and commencement.-** (1) This Act may be called the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) (Amendment) Act, 2016.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Amendment of section 2, Act XXXIII of 1997.-** In the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1997 (XXXIII of 1997), in section 2, for the word "sixteen" the words "twenty six" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECT AND REASONS

Many initiatives have been taken in the past to increase the number of judges in the district judiciary and in the High Courts; however, the number of judges in the Supreme Court of Pakistan is stagnant since 1997. Pakistan's estimated population is 191.71 million in 2015 and number of judges of Supreme Court for such large number of population is only seventeen. This is one of the major causes which hinder the dispensation of speedy justice.

1. SENATOR RAJA MUHAMMAD ZAFAR-UL-HAQ,
2. SENATOR AITZAZ AHSAN,
3. SENATOR COL. (R) SYED TAHIR HUSSAIN MASHHADI,
4. SENATOR HASIL KHAN BIZENJO,
5. SENATOR SAEED GHANI,
6. SENATOR MUHAMMAD TALHA MEHMOOD,
7. SENATOR MUSHAHID HUSSAIN SYED,
8. SENATOR IQBAL ZAFAR JHAGRA,
9. SENATOR MUHAMMAD USMAN KHAN KAKAR,
10. SENATOR DR. JEHANZEB JAMALDINI,
11. SENATOR BAZ MUHAMMAD KHAN,
12. SENATOR HIDAYAT ULLAH,
13. SENATOR NAUMAN WAZIR KHATTAK,
14. SENATOR SIRAJUL HAQ   AND
15. SENATOR SYED MUZAFAR HUSSAIN SHAH

MEMBERS-IN-CHARGE