

**THE SUPERIOR COURTS (NUMBER OF JUDGES)
BILL, 2025**

MEMORANDUM

The objects of this Bill are to—

- (a) prescribe the number of judges for the Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, Court of Appeal and High Court;
- (b) repeal and replace the Superior Courts (Number of Judges) Act, 2016; and
- (c) provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

M. D. KABESHA,
Attorney-General

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Act to prescribe the number of judges for the Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, Court of Appeal and High Court; repeal and replace the Superior Courts (Number of Judges) Act, 2016; and provide for matters connected with, or incidental to, the foregoing.

ENACTED by the Parliament of Zambia

Enactment

1. This Act may be cited as the Superior Courts (Number of Judges) Act, 2025.

Short title

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

Interpretation

“Chief Justice” means the Chief Justice appointed in accordance with Article 140 of the Constitution;

Cap. 1

“Constitutional Court” means the Constitutional Court established under Article 127 of the Constitution;

Cap. 1

“Court of Appeal” means the Court of Appeal established under Article 130 of the Constitution;

Cap. 1

“High Court” means the High Court established in accordance with Article 133 of the Constitution;

Cap. 1

“Deputy Chief Justice” means the Deputy Chief Justice appointed in accordance with Article 140 of the Constitution;

Cap. 1

4 No. of 2025] *Superior Courts (Number of Judges)*

Act No. 7 of 2016	“Deputy Judge President” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Court of Appeal Act, 2016;
Cap. 1	“Deputy President of the Constitutional Court” means the Deputy President of the Constitutional Court appointed under Article 140 of the Constitution; “judge” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Constitution and the word “judges” shall be construed accordingly;
Act No. 7 of 2016	“Judge President” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Court of Appeal Act, 2016;
Cap. 1	“superior court” has the meaning assigned to the words in the Constitution; and
Cap. 1	“Supreme Court means the Supreme Court established under Article 124 of the Constitution;
Supreme Court judges	3. There shall be thirteen judges of the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice and the Deputy Chief Justice.
Constitutional Court judges	4. There shall be thirteen judges of the Constitutional Court, including the President of the Constitutional Court and the Deputy President of the Constitutional Court.
Court of Appeal judges	5. There shall be not more than thirty-one judges of the Court of Appeal, including the Judge President and the Deputy Judge President.
High Court judges	6. There shall be not more than one hundred judges of the High Court.
Repeal of Act No. 9 of 2016	7. The Superior Courts (Number of Judges) Act, 2016, is repealed.
