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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Florida Council of 100 Supports Constitutional Amendment 3, Prospective Appointment of Certain Judicial Vacancies**

TAMPA, Fla. (September 26, 2014) – Florida's Constitution requires justices to retire when they turn 70, or at the end of their six-year term if they turn 70 more than halfway through the term. That means three current Florida Supreme Court justices must retire by January 8, 2019. Coincidentally, on that same day, the winner of the 2018 gubernatorial election will be inaugurated, casting doubt on which governor would be able to appoint the justices – the sitting governor or the incoming governor.

“Amendment 3 provides a clear path for averting a constitutional crisis,” stated Steve Halverson, chairman of the Florida Council of 100. “Now is the time to act, when good policy can be separated from politics and the consequences of an election that hasn't yet occurred.”

The Florida Council of 100 has had a vital, ongoing interest in improving Florida's judicial system, fervently believing that Florida needs a strong, stable judicial system if it wants its economy to function at best-in-class levels.

“A smoothly functioning judiciary is a key element of a high-performing economy,” said Susan Pareigis, president and CEO of the Florida Council of 100. “Florida can't afford to let its highest courts fall victim to uncertainty and doubt if it wants to continue to shine as a prime location for doing business.”

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Formed in 1961, the Florida Council of 100 is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of business, civic, and academic leaders, which exists to promote the economic growth of Florida and a high quality of life for its citizens. Visit [www.fc100.org](http://www.fc100.org) for more information.