



CONSTANTINE IX
ROYO Y IMPERAD

A.S. 300

DECEMBER, 2022

No.12 of 2022

An Act relating to the Reform of the Imperial Courts

Assented to on the 29th of December, 2022

SARHOLM, 2022



BE IT ENACTED, by the Office of the Prime Minister of the New Sarovian Empire and Her Colonies and Dominions, with the advice and consent of the Imperial Parliament thereof, as follows:

Preamble

1. The Imperial Parliament,

Acknowledging the longtime lack of a functioning court system despite the constitutional mandate as given in Article IV Section I of the Constitution Act 2022 for such a system to exist and to *“bear witness to cases where legality is called into question”*,

Commending the success of the reforms made to the executive and legislative branches of the Sarovian government beginning in November 2021 and continuing to this day,

Recognizing that both an appetite and a need for similar reform in the judicial branch of government is present and that action on this matter is long overdue,

Understanding that the definition of specific procedures of the court system is up to the legislative branch as per Article IV Section II of the Constitution Act 2022, which states that *“court procedure is formalised by legislation”*,

Hereby institutes this *Act relating to the Reform of the Imperial Courts* - to be known as the *Judicial Reform Act* - for the purposes of outlining said specific procedure, including but not limited to the nature of the appointment and tenure of First Court judges, the nature of the appointment and tenure of Supreme Court Justices, jurisdiction in court cases, eligibility for court positions, and other related matters.

Regarding the First Court

2. As the Constitution does not give any particular specifications as to the appointment of, tenure of, or other specificities regarding judges of the Imperial First Court, we hereby enact the following procedures and protocols:

- a. All Citizens are eligible to serve as Judges of the First Court by virtue of their citizenship. They shall serve at His Imperial Majesty’s pleasure.
- b. The responsibility of appointments to the First Court falls to the Minister of Justice, who must nominate any candidate in their Weekly Report and present

the name(s) of said candidate(s) at the Weekly Cabinet Meeting to be confirmed by His Imperial Majesty The Emperor or his selected representative.

- c. Any confirmed appointee who does not possess a law degree from the Imperial College of Falkenholm will be considered as Acting Judges until they graduate Falkenholm with a law degree. If the appointee does not graduate within two weeks, they will be given a fine - the amount of which shall be the choice of HIM Government - on a biweekly basis until they graduate.
- d. The legal education of Acting Judges shall be paid for at the expense of HIM Government through Legal Education Grants provided through the Judicial Grant Act.
- e. All First Court Judges must recuse themselves from any court case in which they have a conflict of interest.
- f. The Minister of Justice may dismiss any First Court Judge at any time, for any reason, provided that Judge is not a Supreme Court Justice and this decision is approved by the Prime Minister.

Regarding the Supreme Court

3. As the Constitution does not give any particular specifications regarding judges of the Imperial First Court with the sole exception of their appointment, we hereby enact the following procedures and protocols:

- a. Supreme Court Justices are to be nominated and confirmed through the constitutional process as stated in Article IV Section II of the Constitution Act 2022. The term of a Justice shall last the length of a single House of Commons legislative term. No term limits shall be enacted or imposed.
- b. Supreme Court Justices must possess a degree in law from the Imperial College of Falkenholm; otherwise, they cannot be nominated, except and only except by the special dispensation of His Imperial Majesty The Emperor.
- c. Supreme Court Justices must be a Judge of the First Court; otherwise, they cannot be nominated, except and only except by the special dispensation of His Imperial Majesty The Emperor. With the exception of those Justices granted such a dispensation, Supreme Court Justices, upon lawful confirmation, shall continue to be legally considered a Judge of the First Court, but with a new title and responsibilities.
- d. All Supreme Court Justices must recuse themselves from any court case in which they have a conflict of interest, and must also recuse themselves from all cases at the First Court level due to their responsibilities in regards to the Supreme Court.

Regarding Miscellaneous Protocols

4. As we believe there are other measures that ought to be enacted in order to secure and strengthen a reformed court system, we hereby enact the following procedures and protocols:

- a. The Sarovian court system has the power of judicial review over all judicial and legal matters relating to the constitution, legal code, and any civil law passed by the Imperial Parliament or by Imperial Decree before or since the passage of this Act.
- b. All Members of the Executive Committee of His Imperial Majesty's Privy Council (also known as Ministers of the Imperial Cabinet, including the Prime Minister) are forbidden from holding a position in the court system, with the sole exception of the Minister of Justice, who may serve as a judge or Justice.
- c. It is the responsibility of the Minister of Justice to act as the spokesman and - with the exception of constitutional processes and processes outlined by this Act - the coordinator of the court system.

*©His Imperial Majesty the King of the Sarovians and
Emperor of the Sarovian Commonwealth, represented
by the Imperial Parliament and Ministry of
Public Works and Government Services.*