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**Other Sources:**

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**Abstract:**

This article takes off from the short concurring opinion of Chief Justice Roberts (joined by Justice Souter) in Kansas v. Colorado, 556 U.S. (2009), to examine the constitutional text and historical precedent relevant to the question whether Congress has the power to dictate procedures the Supreme Court must follow in original jurisdiction — as opposed to appellate jurisdiction — cases. The article concludes that the more persuasive view is that Congress lacks such authority, but that the Court has avoided answering the question for more than 200 years and may well never have to address this question of constitutional power on the merits.