

Supreme Court strikes down Louisiana abortion clinic law

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A divided Supreme Court on Monday struck down a Louisiana law regulating abortion clinics, reasserting a commitment to abortion rights over fierce opposition from dissenting conservative justices in the first big abortion case of the Trump era.

Chief Justice John Roberts and his four more liberal colleagues ruled that the law requiring doctors who perform abortions have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals violates the abortion rights the court first announced in the landmark Roe v. Wade decision in 1973.

The Louisiana law is virtually identical to one in Texas that the court struck down in 2016.

But Roberts, who had dissented in that Texas case, did not join the opinion written by Justice Stephen Breyer for the other liberals in Monday's decision, and his position left abortion-rights supporters more relieved than elated.

The chief justice explained that he continues to think the Texas case was wrongly decided, but believes it's important for the court to stand by its prior decisions.

"The result in this case is controlled by our decision four years ago invalidating a nearly identical Texas law," Roberts wrote.

In dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote, "Today a majority of the Court perpetuates its ill-founded abortion jurisprudence by enjoining a perfectly legitimate state law and doing so without jurisdiction."

President Donald Trump's two appointees, Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh, were in dissent, along with Justice Samuel Alito. The presence of the new justices is what fueled hopes among abortion opponents, and fears on the other side, that the Supreme Court would



Terrisa Bukovinac, founder of Pro-Life San Francisco, holds a model of a fetus outside of the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday before the court struck down a Louisiana law regulating abortion clinics.

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Chief Justice John Roberts

be more likely to uphold restrictions.

Nancy Northup, president and CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, said Monday's decision by no means ends the struggle over abortion rights in legislatures and the courts.

"We're relieved that the Louisiana law has been blocked today but we're concerned about tomorrow. With this win, the clinics in Louisiana can stay open to serve the one million women of reproductive age in the state. But the court's decision could embolden states to pass even more restrictive laws when clarity is needed if abortion rights are to be protected," Northup said.

Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of the anti-abortion Susan B. Anthony List, said, "Today's ruling is a bitter disappointment. It demonstrates once again the failure of the Supreme Court

to allow the American people to protect the well-being of women from the tentacles of a brutal and profit-seeking abortion industry."

A trial judge had said the law would not provide health benefits to women and would leave only one clinic open in Louisiana, in New Orleans. That would make it too hard for women to get an abortion, in violation of the Constitution, the judge ruled.

But the appeals court in New Orleans rejected the judge's findings and upheld the law in 2018, doubting that any clinics would have to close and saying the doctors had not tried hard enough to establish relationships with local hospitals.

The clinics filed an emergency appeal at the Supreme Court, asking that the law be blocked while the justices evaluated the case.

Early last year, Roberts joined with the four liberal

members of the court to grant that request and keep the law on hold.

Roberts' vote was a bit of a surprise because he voted in the Texas case to uphold the clinic restrictions. It may have reflected his new role since Justice Anthony Kennedy's retirement as the court's swing justice, his concern about the court being perceived as a partisan institution and respect for a prior decision of the court, even one he disagreed with. Roberts didn't write anything explaining his position at the time, but he had never before cast a vote on the side of abortion rights.

The regulations at issue in Louisiana are distinct from other state laws making their way through court challenges that would ban abortions early in a pregnancy. Those include bans on abortion once a fetal heartbeat is detected, as early as 6 weeks, and the almost total ban passed in Alabama.

OBITUARIES

John Raden Seal

Portland

July 11, 1930 — May 28, 2020

On May 28, 2020, John Raden Seal, loving brother, passed away at age 90.

John was born on July 11, 1930, in Chandler, Oklahoma, to John Everett and Lavera Katherine (Smith) Seal. He graduated from Seaside Union High School in Seaside, Oregon, with the Class of 1948.



John Seal



He enrolled in pre-med at Oregon State College and received his doctorate of dental medicine degree from the University of Oregon Dental School. While attending Oregon State, he joined the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and remained active with that organization the rest of his life.

Upon receiving his doctorate, he joined the Army Medical Corps and served in Korea during the conflict. Following military service, John opened and maintained his practice in the Medical Arts Building in Portland, Oregon, for the next 42 years. He specialized in health care to the elderly and infirm at bedside.

From a young age he had a passion for painting and sketching. John loved fishing the streams and rivers of the Northwest where he could commune with nature and the wild. Clam digging in Seaside was a favorite sport, and he was good at it.

He spent many happy times with good friend and noted cardiologist Dr. Jay Hoyt, golfing, fishing and tramping the woods. He also was an avid

music lover, and supported the Portland Opera for many years. John was known for his kind and generous nature.

He was preceded in death by his father, John, and mother, Lavera, with whom he will be interred in a private ceremony at River-view Cemetery.

John is survived by his brother, Bob, and sister-in-law, Anna Maria Brunetta Seal, of McKinney, Texas; and nieces Stephanie Bolt, of Dallas, Texas, and Debbie Schneiderwind, of Las Vegas, Nevada.

John was ordained as a ruling elder and deacon in the Presbyterian Church USA. He was a longtime member and strong supporter of Kenilworth Presbyterian Church in Portland. A few of his countless contributions to the church included serving on the governing board, the deacons board, teaching Sunday school and making heavenly desserts.

Memorial services will be held on July 11 at 11 a.m. at Kenilworth Presbyterian Church, 4028 SE 34th Ave. in Portland (503-235-3977; kenilworthpc.com).

Due to restrictions of COVID-19, please consider watching the live streaming of the service on the Finley Sunset Hills Facebook page at fb.me/FinleySunsetHills

To leave online condolences and to view a link to the live streaming of the service, visit finleysunsethills.com

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
63 52 A couple of showers	63 53 Cloudy	64 50 Partly sunny	65 50 Periods of sun	66 52 Chance of a shower	66 52 Chance of a shower	65 52 A shower possible

ALMANAC
Astoria through Sunday

Temperatures

High/low	65/53
Normal high/low	66/51
Record high	86 in 1951
Record low	40 in 1985

Precipitation

Sunday	0.17"
Month to date	2.29"
Normal month to date	2.44"
Year to date	37.90"
Normal year to date	36.05"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2020

UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: Just above the northwest horizon as darkness falls, look for Pollux and Castor, the twins of Gemini.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:28 a.m.
Sunset tonight	9:11 p.m.
Moonrise today	4:25 p.m.
Moonset today	2:20 a.m.

Full Last New First
July 4 July 12 July 20 July 27

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
9:59 a.m.	5.9	4:04 a.m.	0.6	
10:02 p.m.	8.4	3:47 p.m.	1.6	
Cape Disappointment	9:42 a.m.	5.7	3:23 a.m.	0.8
9:41 p.m.	8.4	2:58 p.m.	1.9	
Hammond	9:49 a.m.	6.1	3:38 a.m.	0.7
9:53 p.m.	8.7	3:21 p.m.	1.7	
Warrenton	9:54 a.m.	6.3	3:48 a.m.	0.7
9:57 p.m.	8.8	3:31 p.m.	1.7	
Knappa	10:36 a.m.	6.2	5:05 a.m.	0.5
10:39 p.m.	8.7	4:48 p.m.	1.4	
Depoe Bay	8:56 a.m.	5.5	2:53 a.m.	0.5
8:54 p.m.	8.5	2:23 p.m.	1.8	

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
Atlanta	88/71/t	88/73/t
Boston	70/64/t	73/66/t
Chicago	88/71/t	86/71/t
Dallas	95/77/pc	98/78/s
Denver	81/52/t	88/58/s
Honolulu	88/74/s	89/75/s
Houston	91/80/pc	94/77/pc
Los Angeles	75/60/pc	79/60/pc
Miami	95/81/pc	96/79/s
New York City	83/68/pc	82/69/t
Phoenix	98/78/s	104/82/s
San Francisco	75/54/s	70/54/pc
Wash., DC	89/72/pc	87/72/t

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST
Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Wed.
Baker City	74/41/pc	71/40/pc
Brookings	65/49/s	68/51/s
Ilwaco	62/54/c	62/54/c
Newberg	68/51/pc	69/50/pc
Newport	59/49/pc	58/47/c
North Bend	64/50/c	64/51/pc
Roseburg	74/52/pc	77/52/s
Seaside	61/53/r	63/53/c
Springfield	71/48/pc	73/47/pc
Vancouver	67/54/c	68/53/c