

ROE V. WADE OVERTURNED

Idaho among states set to ban most abortions



Abortion-rights protesters display placards during a demonstration outside of the U.S. Supreme Court, Sunday, May 8, 2022, in Washington, D.C.

Idaho law passed in 2020 includes rape, incest exceptions

BY KEITH RIDLER

Associated Press

BOISE — The overturning of Roe v. Wade by the U.S. Supreme Court with a 6-3 vote on Friday, June 24 triggers a 2020 Idaho law banning all abortions except in cases of reported rape or incest, or to protect the mother's life.

That law takes effect 30 days after the court's decision, negating the state's current law allowing most abortions up to viability at about 24 weeks.

"Idaho has been at the forefront of enacting new laws to protect preborn babies," Republican Gov. Brad Little said in a statement, noting he signed the 2020 trigger law.

"However, we fully acknowledge this monumental moment in our country's history means we must confront what (we) know will be growing needs for women and families in the months and years ahead," he said. "We absolutely must come together like never before to support women and teens facing unexpected or unwanted pregnancies."

Under the trigger law, the person performing the abortion could face a felony prosecution punishable by up to five years in prison.

In cases of rape or incest, the law requires pregnant women to file a police report and provide a copy of the report to the provider prior to an abortion.

"I never expected to see such a grave rollback of our rights in the 21st Century," said Democratic Rep. Lauren Necochea, who also chairs the Idaho Democratic Party. "In 30 short days, a trigger law banning safe and legal abortions will go into effect, stripping away Idahoans' reproductive rights. This law is especially cruel because it only applies to those who don't have the resources to find a way around it. People of means will be able to flee the state to receive abortion care, while Idahoans facing low wages, including a disproportionate share of people of color, will face involuntary pregnancy."

Planned Parenthood in a statement said it would continue to provide abortion care in Idaho as long as it was legally able to do so.

"It is my promise to every person in Idaho that Planned Parenthood will never back down," said Rebecca Gibron, CEO of Planned Parenthood Great Northwest, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky. "We will keep fighting with everything we've got to ensure that everyone can access the care you need to control your body and your life. I want to be clear: Planned Parenthood will always be here to help you get the care you need."

The regional Planned Parenthood

before the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling had already closed its clinic in Boise, Idaho's state's largest city, leaving two other locations open in Twin Falls and Meridian. It said it is opening a new clinic in Ontario on the Idaho-Oregon border, about a 45-minute drive from Boise.

This year, Idaho lawmakers also passed a Texas-style ban prohibiting abortions after about six weeks of pregnancy and authorizing family members to sue medical providers for performing an abortion. That law is on hold following a challenge by Planned Parenthood. The Idaho Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments in August.

If the Idaho Supreme Court upholds the state's Texas-style abortion ban, with Roe v. Wade now tossed aside, a medical provider who performs an abortion in Idaho could face a lawsuit and criminal charges.

Pregnant women in Idaho seeking abortions will have to travel out of state, with the nearest abortion providers in Washington, Oregon, Nevada and Colorado.

"No one should have to flee their state to access safe healthcare," Boise Mayor Lauren McLean said on Twitter. "I remain steadfast in my support for all people who need access to abortion care & stand with them in fighting for privacy in health care decisions."

Oregon will retain abortion rights; Governor: 'Abortion is health care'

BY GARY WARNER

Oregon Capital Bureau

The governors of California, Oregon, and Washington on Friday, June 24 pledged to maintain access to abortions and other reproductive health care following the U.S. Supreme Court decision radically revising the Roe v. Wade ruling.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown said the 6-3 decision handed down Friday by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization means about 33.6 million women now find abortion illegal or inaccessible.

"Abortion is health care, and no matter who you are or where you come from, Oregon doesn't turn away anyone seeking health care — period," Brown said in a statement Friday morning. "Let me be clear: You cannot ban abortion, you can only ban safe abortions — and this disgraceful Supreme Court decision will undoubtedly put many people's lives at risk."

The position was endorsed by California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, both Democrats.

Former House Minority Leader Christine Drazan, the Republican nominee for governor of Oregon in 2022, said that if elected she would veto legislation to strengthen the state's abortion access laws.

"Despite the U.S. Supreme Court's decision, Oregon will continue to have among the most extreme abortion laws in the country and around the world. As governor, I will stand up for life by vetoing legislation designed to push Oregon further outside the mainstream."

Former House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, the 2022 Democratic nominee for governor, slammed the ruling and

said she would take an opposite approach to Drazan.

"Our right to control our own bodies and futures has been gutted," Kotek. "I'm furious."

Kotek called on abortion rights supporters to turn out for the November elections.

"Make no mistake: reproductive freedom is on the ballot in Oregon this year," she said.

Betsy Johnson, the former Democratic state senator launching an unaffiliated bid for governor, said the right to choose abortion was a "bedrock" issue for her and the state.

"I am pro-choice," Johnson said. "As Oregon's independent governor, I will always defend and protect a woman's right to choose."

In 1969, Oregon became one of the first states to legalize some form of abortion.

Modeled after a British statute, the state law approved by the legislature allowed legal abortions during the first 150

days after conception.

The patient had to be an Oregon resident and the procedure was limited to cases of rape, severe handicaps, or danger to the mother's physical or mental health. The procedure could only be done in a hospital by a physician.

The state's early adoption of abortion rights became a rallying issue for Oregon Right to Life, which posts on its website:

"Oregon is the only state in America with NO protective pro-life laws. Oregon also legalized abortion before Roe v. Wade."

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Roe v. Wade in 1973, Oregon aligned its laws with the federal standard.

In 2017, the Legislature approved a bill requiring insurance companies to cover abortions.



Brown

Are you done with those?

Please dispose of unwanted meds the safe way.

We provide free and convenient dropbox locations and mail-back disposal packages.

We make it easy for you.



medtakebackoregon.org
1-844-TAKE-BACK

Safe, free, and convenient.
MED-Project
Medication Education & Disposal



Tires LES SCHWAB

Celebrating **70** Years!

GET THERE Safely

STOP BY OR SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE
LesSchwab.com



Lew Brothers Tire Service
541-523-3679
210 Bridge St. Baker City, OR