



T E X A S
Alliance for Life

Changing Hearts, Saving Lives Since 1988

Suggested Legislative Priority

Pro-Life

“Pass legislation to completely protect unborn children from abortion beginning at fertilization through a Trigger Ban on abortion throughout pregnancy that goes into effect when and to the extent that the Supreme Court reverses *Roe v. Wade* and allows Texas to decide this critical issue for itself.”

Explanation

Roe v. Wade's unjust precedent strictly prohibits pre-viability abortion bans and laws that substantially limit abortion access. Every state law attempting to ban abortions on non-viable babies, such as heartbeat bans, dismemberment bans, bans on abortions of babies with Down syndrome, and even safety regulations that risk closing abortion facilities, have failed. None have withstood federal court challenges. None have save any lives from abortion.

Furthermore, courts have forced those states to reimburse the abortion industry's attorney's fees, costing taxpayers millions of dollars. Rather than protecting innocent unborn lives, these pre-viability bans have effectively become a meal ticket for the abortion industry.

It is not possible to ignore the state and federal courts, including the Supreme Court. We are a nation of laws based on the Constitution, which the judiciary has the responsibility of interpreting. Texas can no sooner ignore the Supreme Court on abortion today than other states could ignore the federal court-mandated dismantling of racial segregation laws in the last century.

The questions for members of the Republican Party of Texas are this:

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- What should we learn from the recent *June Medical Services* ruling?
- Should we continue advocating for immediate pre-viability abortion bans, knowing the federal courts will prevent enforcement and force taxpayers to pay huge attorneys fees to abortion industry plaintiffs?
- Do we need more predictable failures with severe costs?
- Can we move platform ideas that encourage ignoring our courts?

Texas Alliance for Life has been lobbying for pro-life laws in the Capital for 32 years. We believe we should enact a longer-term strategy and focus our efforts on passing an abortion ban that goes into effect when the Supreme Court has more justices willing to take a fresh look at *Roe v. Wade*.

Ten states have adopted this more strategic approach, passing what is called a “trigger ban” on abortion. This law provides complete protection from abortion, beginning at fertilization, when and to the extent *Roe* is overturned. There is no way this law can be challenged in court, and it will go into effect and begin saving babies lives as soon as possible.

The Legislature considered the “trigger ban” last year. Unfortunately, it did not pass. That is not uncommon for a new concept in its first session. We ask the Republican Party of Texas and the Texas Legislature to consider this approach when it convenes in January.

Respectfully,

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