

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 1, 2021 **Contact:** Sen.Roys@legis.wisconsin.gov

SCOTUS Fails to Overturn Unconstitutional Texas Abortion Ban Ending Texans' right to choose, anti-choice justices set the stage to fully overturn Roe v. Wade

Madison - The Supreme Court of the United States' (SCOTUS) declined to enjoin a clearly unconstitutional law in Texas that functionally outlaws nearly all abortion care. SCOTUS' decision to allow the law to take effect sends the clear message that they will fully overturn *Roe v*. Wade and Casey *v*. *Planned Parenthood* in the coming term.

Texas' law bans abortion at 6 weeks (measured from last menstrual period, meaning 3 weeks or less from implantation, long before most people know they are pregnant). This clearly unconstitutional law was a gambit by anti-choice extremists to give the Court a chance to overturn *Roe* -- and an apparently successful one. Even more disturbingly, the Texas ban does not have public officials enforcing the law, but rather encourages anyone to sue a person who may have "aided and abetted" someone in obtaining an abortion, offering a \$10,000+ bounty -- encouraging vigilantism and undermining the rule of law.

Sen. Kelda Roys, a strong champion of abortion rights and reproductive justice, issued the following statement:

"Every person in this country should be alarmed by SCOTUS' decision to allow one of the most restrictive, dangerous, and outrageous abortion bans ever passed to take effect. By allowing this law to stand, SCOTUS has sent a clear message that women and pregnant people are no longer full citizens entitled to bodily autonomy or medical privacy.

"This terrifying development will have a direct impact on Wisconsinites, because our state still has an archaic 1849 law on the books that criminalizes abortion. If <u>Roe</u> no longer protects Texas women, it will no longer protect Wisconsin women.

"Reproductive rights are human rights. The same right-wing extremists - overwhelmingly white, male, Republican legislators - who eagerly work to limit access to abortion care, birth control, and public healthcare programs, are all too often the same hypocrites demanding the 'freedom' to infect others with a deadly virus by outlawing vaccination efforts, mask rules, and other public health measures."

###