

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus Statement on Roe v. Wade Leak

HOUSTON, TX – The Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus is deeply alarmed by the leaked Supreme Court draft opinion that would overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. This landmark ruling ensured fundamental access for any person seeking an abortion in the United States. Bodily autonomy has historically been restricted for gay couples (Lawrence v. Texas), trans people (Bostock v. Clayton County), and [intersex children](#).

It is important to note that while no final decision has been made and the opinion could be altered prior to the expected June announcement, we are in grave risk of taking a dangerous step backwards. A leak of this nature is unprecedented, and could have implications for years, even decades, to come. Until the official decision is issued, there is still a constitutionally protected right to abortion.

If overturned, reproductive rights will be left solely to the discretion of the individual states and would immediately roll back in twenty-three states. However, make no mistake. Overturning Roe will not stop abortions; it will only stop *safe* abortions. “The South will suffer the greatest, as elected leadership has consistently demonstrated that the right to choose what is best for both your body and life is irrelevant. Texas has the most restrictive reproductive rights in the nation, and will automatically ban abortion, as state law permits,” said Joëlle Espeut, Caucus Board member.

She continued, “This is the time for *everyone* who supports an individual’s right to choose their own healthcare options to speak up and out, to organize, attend rallies, write their elected officials, register voters, *vote*, fundraise, and decide where you can make a difference. This is serious, and it affects everyone.”

Abortion, while highly restricted, is still legal in Texas. For more information, please visit [Planned Parenthood](#) or [Houston Women’s Clinic](#). If you need assistance with related costs or material support, please visit [Lilith Fund](#) and Clinic Access Support Network.

No matter what happens in this case, Roe was never enough. Texas has seen first-hand the devastating consequences of limiting abortion access. In fact, over the past two decades, anti-abortion politicians have restricted abortion access through unnecessary and harmful legislation. Ultimately, the people most affected by legal and logistical barriers to abortion access include

people of color, people who face documentation barriers, transgender and gender nonconforming people, and other people who are routinely denied access to healthcare.

In the meantime, we urge our members and supporters to vote [The Caucus slate of endorsed candidates](#) as well as donate to abortion funds in Texas and surrounding states.

Learn More About Your Rights:

[ACLU of Texas – Know Your Rights](#)

List of Texas Abortion Funds

[Buckle Bunnies](#)

[Bridge Collective](#)

[Clinic Access Support Network](#)

[Frontera Fund](#)

[Fund Texas Choice](#)

[Jane's Due Process](#)

[Lilith Fund](#)

[Stigma Relief Fund](#)

[Support Your Sistah \(SYS\)](#)

[Texas Equal Access Fund](#)

[West Fund](#)

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The Houston LGBTQ+ Political Caucus is the South's oldest, civil rights organization dedicated solely to the advancement of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender equality. Founded in 1975, it is the largest LGBTQ+ political organization in the city of Houston and Harris County.