



Members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary,

My name is Kristan Hawkins, and I'm the President of Students for Life of America and Students for Life Action. On behalf of our nearly 1,300 active groups and of the more than 127,000 student activists we've trained across the nation, I would like to express our strong support for the Texas Heartbeat Law.

Let me be clear, when the Supreme Court denied relief from the Texas Heartbeat Law, there was no "shadow docket" or "midnight order." Abortion advocates are merely frustrated because that law prevents them from easily identifying someone to sue.

The decision of the Supreme Court was simply consistent with the Court's normal processes. The plaintiffs did not carry their burden successfully, so the law went into effect as scheduled. The Court cannot block a perceived "bad" law; their ruling can only inhibit enforcement. It was impossible for the Supreme Court to grant emergency relief that prevents potential harm because that relief would only apply to the named defendants, leaving nearly every other person in the state of Texas free to file a lawsuit against the plaintiffs.

Although the Supreme Court did not produce a decision based on the *merits* of the Heartbeat Law, I will. Out of the more than a dozen states that have passed a "heartbeat law," Texas is the only state where that law is now in effect. **Today, an estimated 4,350 innocent preborn lives have been saved from the violence of abortion because of this bold and innovative law.**

States like Texas are and should challenge *Roe* because it was a poorly decided and outdated ruling made obsolete by modern scientific and societal advances. *Roe* asserts that the right to "privacy" and "abortion" were inscribed in invisible ink, contorting the U.S. Constitution to fit their narrative rather than interpreting the law of the land as written. Even liberal legal minds acknowledge that the constitutional basis to justify *Roe* is questionable at best. **As a result, this tragic decision sentenced more than 62 million preborn babies to death.**

Although abortion advocates tout tremendous public support for *Roe v. Wade*, Americans tend to misunderstand the actual implications of the decision – abortion on-demand for any reason through all nine months of pregnancy. In reality, **only 13% of Americans support abortion in the third trimester**, according to [a 2018 Gallup poll](#). Furthermore, [half of the country](#) believes abortion should be illegal once a preborn child's heart begins to beat.

Clearly, the majority of Americans actually support significant restrictions on abortion. The American government was designed to be by the people, for the people. Abortion policy belongs to the states, where Americans can participate in the democratic process as intended by the Founding Fathers.

Senators, the future is anti-abortion. Texas should serve as an example of the will of the American people. We desire to protect innocent preborn children from the violence of abortion. It's time that right was returned to us.

Thank you,

Kristan Hawkins