

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

WV FREE APPLAUDS SUPREME COURT DECISION IN WHOLE WOMAN'S HEALTH v. HELLERSTEDT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHARLESTON, WV – WV FREE applauds the United States Supreme Court decision to strike down Texas' HB 2 as unconstitutional, allowing all of the abortion clinics currently open to remain open, and allowing more clinics to open in the future. This decision sets a strong legal standard for abortion access in Texas and across the country. "We're thrilled that the Supreme Court of the United States recognizes HB 2 for the clear human rights violation that it is. This landmark decision creates powerful momentum to change the tide of attacks on abortion access. However, access remains challenging, especially in West Virginia, as we still have medically unnecessary laws that create barriers for those seeking abortion care," said Margaret Chapman Pomponio, Executive Director of WV FREE.

West Virginia has two clinics that provide abortion care and both are located in Charleston. Sweeping attacks on abortion access like those implemented in Texas could have had a devastating impact on a woman's ability to access safe reproductive health care.

Chapman Pomponio continued: "This decision is a strong indictment of an alarming, creeping trend that criminalizes providers and those seeking abortion access. We are putting politicians on notice: you can't inject your beliefs into our personal health decisions. The West Virginia legislature still needs to affirm that women deserve compassion, respect, and dignity when seeking an abortion by refusing to wage war on our reproductive rights."

Last week, WV FREE partnered with [Advocates for Youth](#) '1 in 3 Campaign' to shed light on the importance of this decision by hosting an Illumination Event at the Union Building and State Capitol in Charleston (see below). More photos available by request.



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