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Roe Reversed- The End of a Deadly Era in American History

June 24th, Annapolis- Today’s Supreme Court decision marks a monumental victory for children and families in America -and more broadly, a victory for democracy and our Constitution.

With the decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, the “**Fearless Five**” conservative justices have finally returned to the people, and the state legislatures that represent them, their Constitutional authority to debate and make law on abortion. A total of 18 states have enacted “trigger laws” that go into effect immediately to protect unborn children.

Maryland Right to Life (MDRTL) is the oldest and largest pro-life organization in the state of Maryland. The organization says that while abortion will remain legal through all nine months of pregnancy under the *Maryland Freedom of Choice Act* of 1991, they are prepared to challenge abortion extremism in the legislature. “*The power to protect innocent human life must reside with the people and not be held hostage by the courts*” said **Laura Bogley, MDRTL Legislative Director**. “*Thanks to the strength of the pro-life community in Maryland, we have successfully defended our state Constitution against 3 attacks on the unalienable right to life in the past 4 legislative sessions.*”

The abortion battle in Maryland is fought largely on partisan lines in Annapolis, with 60% of Democrat lawmakers endorsed by the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) in 2018. Maryland was one of the first states to codify *Roe* and as a result the state has the 4th highest rate of abortions per capita. Maryland is one of only 4 states that forces taxpayers to fund elective abortions and one of only 3 states that shields abortionists from reporting data to the CDC. This abortion extremism has made Maryland a hot spot for late term abortion tourism. But, response to MDRTL’s candidate survey has been unprecedented, resulting in more endorsed pro-life candidates than ever before.

With the Court releasing its shackles on the state, MDRTL has a real opportunity to effect positive change in Maryland. “*The real work has just begun in Maryland,*” said Laura Bogley. Today is a day to celebrate the brave women and men who for 50 years have dedicated their lives to saving the babies— great people like Dr. Mildred Jefferson, the Co-Founder of **National Right to Life**, and so many heroes who have served tirelessly as the first line of defense for babies and mothers.

MDRTL calls on public officials in the state to demand civility in the wake of this decision and to demonstrate respect for the democratic process.

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