

STATE of TEXAS
HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



Matt Shaheen
District 66

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 28, 2016

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REP. SHAHEEN ISSUES STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT ABORTION RULING
Collin County Representative Pledges to Keep Fighting for Women and the Unborn

PLANO, TX—In response to today's U.S. Supreme Court decision that abortion facilities and doctors are not required to meet common sense safety standards—standards put in place to protect the lives of women who decide to have an abortion—State Representative Matt Shaheen (R-Collin County) issued the following statement:

"I am appalled and greatly saddened by today's Supreme Court decision. It is clear that substandard abortion facilities are harming women as thousands have experienced abortion related complications with large numbers requiring post abortion hospitalization. To address this problem, the Texas Legislature took action with H.B. 2 to protect the lives of women who choose to have an abortion by requiring safety standards for abortion facilities and doctors. The issues surrounding these types of standards hit the national spotlight when our nation was horrified to learn about the atrocities committed by Dr. Kermit Gosnell, who was found to be responsible for the deaths of several women due to the uncleanness of his facility. Dr. Gosnell was also convicted of murdering little babies that had survived his abortion procedures. The Texas Legislature had taken action to stop these types of senseless deaths and today, liberals on the Supreme Court sent a strong message that the safety of women is not a priority."

Liberal judges on the Supreme Court believed that the Texas law placed an "undue burden" on women seeking abortions in Texas, but in no case did the state ever shut down an abortion facility. Rather, the facilities themselves decided to close instead of complying with reasonable health and safety standards—standards that other health providers are required to meet.

Representative Shaheen concluded, "This battle is far from over and we should be encouraged by the fact that H.B. 2's ban on abortions after 20 weeks will remain in effect, because unborn babies feel the pain of the abortion procedure after this period of time. As the rights of the unborn and the health and safety of women continue to be under assault, I will continue to stand with them and fight."

Representative Shaheen serves on the Texas House committees on Criminal Jurisprudence and Defense & Veteran's Affairs. He is a resident of Plano and serves the citizens of Texas House District 66, which encompasses west Plano and far north Dallas.

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