

July 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The recent term of the U.S. Supreme Court just ended. Every June we look forward to the Court's opinions. The most significant cases are left until the end of the month. We will address several cases in coming Educational Updates.

This month's Educational Update discusses the case of *United States v. Skrametti*. This case found that states have the medical right to restrict gender affirming drug and surgical treatments of minors. This ruling on a Tennessee law, equally applies to Alabama's VCAP law.

In *Medina v. Planned Parenthood*, the Court ruled states are not required to fund Planned Parenthood abortion activities. We are hopeful the Alabama Legislature will pass a law removing all funding of Planned Parenthood in Alabama. Although abortions are prohibited in Alabama, Planned Parenthood is a major referral source of women to other states for abortions.

Free Speech Coalition v. Paxton upheld a Texas law requiring commercial websites that publish sexually explicit content to prohibit minors from accessing them. This reasoning is important to uphold efforts by Rep. Chris Sells/Sen. Clyde Chambliss sponsored law to require cellphone providers to provide a switch to prohibit minors from accessing pornography.

Mahmoud v. Taylor, upheld parents' religious rights to object to their children being exposed to LGBTQ+ story books in public schools. This is an important finding to reaffirm the original *Wisconsin v. Yoder* case decided in 1972, that first protected parents' rights. This case provides a very important basis for Rep. Arnold Mooney's legislation to protect children from pornographic materials in public schools and libraries.

Finally, *Trump v. Casa* deals with an important civil procedure issue for lawyers. Federal trial courts, usually having jurisdiction only over a part of the state, have been issuing nationwide injunctions. Reasonable restrictions on the power of judges are necessary and this case is a first step in that direction.

Our final comment on these cases is that in each one it was a 6-3 decision. A division between what is called the conservative judges and the liberal judges. The conservative judges attempt to follow proper historical and legal procedures. On the other hand, the liberal judges base their dissents on progressive cultural ideology. We are grateful for a Supreme Court that is restoring integrity in the judicial system.

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston

AEJ/pkh

The Southeast Law Institute, Inc.[™] is a 501(c)(3) organization providing legal counsel on constitutional and public policy issues.