



Statement on Supreme Court decision on *Roe V. Wade* and Arkansas Anti-Abortion Trigger Law

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Media Contact:

Carly Squyres, hello@KellyForArkansas.com
(479) 633-7628

LOWELL, ARK, June 24--

Today's Supreme Court Decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* means that access to abortion is not considered a constitutional right. This takes away Arkansans' right to privacy and their freedom to choose when and how to start a family.

Arkansas has a trigger law signed in 2019 that states as soon as *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, abortion will be illegal in Arkansas in nearly every situation, including rape and incest cases. The law also includes prison sentences and fines for those who provide services in violation of the law.

"If the goal is actually to reduce abortions, we know how to do that: access to healthcare, access to affordable contraception, and sex education," Krout said.

Leslie Rutledge, Krout's opponent and current Attorney General, certified on Friday, June 24, that the SCOTUS did overturn *Roe v. Wade* and the trigger law went into effect.

"My opponent has said she considers making Arkansas one of the toughest states to get an abortion one of her most significant achievements. As a former foster parent, a mom, and an adoptive parent, my focus is and will continue to be on how to truly support and empower families. Too many Arkansas families are struggling, and what they actually need now is support, not the government stepping into decisions on when and how to start a family," Krout said.

The 2021 Arkansas Poll showed that 51% of Arkansans, when asked if abortion should be legal or illegal, said, “It depends” and only 38% of Arkansans said it should be more difficult to get an abortion.

“It’s clear to me that this type of extreme trigger law is not what the majority of Arkansans want. The state is projected to have a nearly billion dollar budget surplus that could be helping families, instead of being used to punish people and their healthcare providers while they make these incredibly personal decisions,” Krout said.



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BIO: Kelly Krout is a mom, a foster parenting advocate, a children’s book author, and has a Masters in Social Work. **She is running for Lieutenant Governor because Arkansas deserves leaders who are willing to do the right thing - even when it’s hard.** She and her husband have seven children and reside in Lowell with their dog, Veto. Kelly spends her free time helping fellow Arkansans keep an eye on the legislature and watching all of her children play basketball.

For Media Availability contact:

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