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Statement on *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*

SCOTUS ruling protects women's access to reproductive healthcare

Madison – In a 5-3 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a restrictive Texas law this morning, and in doing so reaffirmed a woman's constitutional right to reproductive health care. Assembly Assistant Democratic Leader Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement in response to today's ruling in the case of *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*:

"Today's decision by the U.S. Supreme Court is a strong affirmation that women in this country have the constitutional right to access reproductive health care without unjustifiable burden. The ruling strengthens the belief that reproductive health care decisions should be made between a woman and her doctor, and that a woman has the fundamental right to access all legal reproductive health services available to her. For too long we have seen Republican lawmakers across the country, including right here in Wisconsin, attack the rights of women and their access to critical reproductive healthcare.

"The decision and accompanying majority opinion delivered with the ruling set clear guidance that the highest court in our country views these restrictive laws as unconstitutional. I am hopeful that today's ruling will allow policymakers to move past the repeated divisive attacks we have seen on women's access to health care and move forward on expanding access to critical care and services like birth control and cervical cancer screenings."

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