

DAVID STRAS ON ABORTION

Highlights:

- David Stras opposed abortion rights.
 - Stras wrote a dissent calling for Missouri's restrictive abortion law to go into effect.
 - The law banned abortions after eight weeks of pregnancy and banned all abortions in which the woman sought an abortion due to a potential Down syndrome diagnosis.
 - Stras ruled to uphold a law that required providers to give patients an anti-abortion booklet and perform an ultrasound before an abortion.

Stras Opposed Abortion Rights

STRAS WROTE A DISSENT CALLING FOR MISSOURI'S RESTRICTIVE ABORTION LAW TO GO INTO EFFECT

Stras Wrote A Dissent Calling To Uphold A Restrictive Missouri Abortion Law. According to the Kansas City Star, "A federal appeals court has upheld the temporary blocking of Missouri's restrictive 2019 abortion law from going into effect as a lawsuit makes its way through the legal system. The law prohibits abortion after 8 weeks of pregnancy and includes a series of triggers that ban abortion at 14, 18 and 20 weeks if the 8-week ban is overturned. And it prohibits abortions for the reason of a fetus's race, sex or solely for the diagnosis of Down syndrome or other conditions that might be fatal. There is no exception for victims of rape or incest [...] Stras dissented over the issue of the reason ban. [...] Stras wrote in a dissenting opinion that wasn't enough to prove abortion providers would be harmed by the reason ban. [Kansas City Star, [6/9/21](#)]"

The Law Banned Abortions After Eight Weeks Of Pregnancy And Banned All Abortions In Which The Woman Sought An Abortion Due To A Potential Down Syndrome Diagnosis

2019: Missouri Passed A Law That Banned All Abortions Conducted After Eight Weeks Of Pregnancy, And It Banned All Abortions Where A Provider Knows That A Woman Is Seeking An Abortion Because Of A Potential Down Syndrome Diagnosis. According to the Kansas City Star, "A federal appeals court has upheld the temporary blocking of Missouri's restrictive 2019 abortion law from going into effect as a lawsuit makes its way through the legal system. The law prohibits abortion after 8 weeks of pregnancy and includes a series of triggers that ban abortion at 14, 18 and 20 weeks if the 8-week ban is overturned. And it prohibits abortions for the reason of a fetus's race, sex or solely for the diagnosis of Down syndrome or other conditions that might be fatal. There is no exception for victims of rape or incest. [Kansas City Star, [6/9/21](#)]"

STRAS RULED TO UPHOLD A LAW THAT REQUIRED PROVIDERS TO GIVE PATIENTS AN ANTI-ABORTION BOOKLET AND PERFORM AN ULTRASOUND BEFORE AN ABORTION

Stras Ruled That A Missouri Law That Required Physicians To Give Patients An Anti-Abortion Booklet And Perform An Ultrasound Before An Abortion Did Not Violate The First Amendment. According to Courthouse News Services, "Missouri's law requiring physicians to give women a pro-life booklet and perform an ultrasound before an abortion does not infringe on a Satanist's religious freedom, the Eighth Circuit ruled Tuesday. [...] 'Doe makes no argument, however, that the informed-consent law is anything other than 'neutral' and 'generally applicable,'" U.S. Circuit Judge David R. Stras wrote for a three-judge panel. 'In these circumstances, it must only survive rational-basis review, which requires it to be 'rationally related to a legitimate government interest.' To the extent Doe argues that the certification requirement lacks a rational basis, we disagree.'" [Courthouse News Services, [6/9/20](#)]"

- **A Suit Was Filed By A Judy Doe That Claimed Missouri’s Definition Of Life Beginning At Conception Violated The Establishment And Free Exercise Clauses Of The First Amendment.** According to Courthouse News Services, “Judy Doe, a member of the Satanic Temple, filed a lawsuit in February 2018 claiming that the state’s definition of life beginning at conception violates the establishment and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment.[...] Doe had argued in her complaint that an unborn child that is not viable, as defined by Missouri law, is just tissue under her religious beliefs. She said she ‘makes decisions regarding her health based on the best scientific understanding of the world, even if the science does not comport with the religious or political beliefs of others.’” [Courthouse News Services, [6/9/20](#)]