

OPINION

LETTERS

Texas' 'Appalling' New Abortion Law

Sept. 14, 2021

To the Editor:

Let's get real. The Texas legislators who passed the appalling abortion law know that their families, friends, donors and well-off constituents can fly, as needed, to a state that allows abortion. Most women with modest financial resources, disproportionately women of color, cannot.

History tells us — and some of us remember — that when abortion was illegal, thousands of women resorted to extreme methods to end unplanned pregnancies. Many others have coped with lifelong distress caused by their inability to end an unwanted pregnancy.

After *Roe v. Wade*, death and hospitalizations due to unsafe abortion almost entirely ended. But since then the attacks on abortion rights have been unrelenting. The new Texas law, empowering ordinary citizens to sue anyone who in any way helps a pregnant woman obtain an abortion after six weeks, is just the latest, and the worst, attack on abortion rights. Congress must act immediately to protect access to abortion across the country.

Elayne Archer
Elizabeth McGee
Brooklyn

The writers belong to Older Women Remember and Speak Out, a group of women who worked in the 1960s and 1970s to make abortion legal in the United States.