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Austin, September 2 (RHC)-- In Texas, a near total ban on abortions went into effect on Wednesday at midnight after the U.S. Supreme Court failed to rule on an emergency petition filed by abortion providers seeking to block the measure.

The law bars abortions just six weeks into a pregnancy — before many people even know they're pregnant. There is no exception for rape or incest.

The law allows anyone in Texas to sue patients, medical workers, or even a patient's family or friends who "aid and abet" an abortion. Until now, no other six-week abortion ban has been allowed to go into effect.

Reproductive justice advocates have vowed to keep fighting. The American Civil Liberties Union tweeted: "This is a racial and economic catastrophe. ... This is a full-scale assault on patients, our health care providers, and our support systems."

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