

## **Allies for Independence Releases Statement on Supreme Court Ruling in *Texas v. California***

(June 18, 2021) Yesterday, the United States Supreme Court released its ruling in the case *Texas v. California*. In a 7–2 decision by Justice Breyer, the Supreme Court ruled that Texas and other states that initially challenged the individual mandate in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) did not have standing, because they had not shown past or future injury related to the provision. The Court therefore declined to reach the merits, which could have led to striking down the ACA in part or in whole.

The case came after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit affirmed a trial court’s decision that when Congress zeroed out the individual tax penalty for not having health insurance in 2017, this action had the effect of rendering the minimum-coverage provision unconstitutional — and, given that there is no express “severability” clause in the ACA, also had the effect of rendering the entire ACA unconstitutional.

Allies for Independence is pleased that the ACA as we know it will remain the law of the land. The Supreme Court’s ruling means that individuals across the United States will continue to have the option to afford health insurance coverage through Medicaid expansion, or tax credits, as well as through employer-sponsored health plans on healthcare exchanges. In addition, Americans with pre-existing health conditions will continue to benefit from guaranteed coverage and protection against discrimination due to their health. Allies for Independence will continue its work dedicated to the implementation of a strong, vital, and accessible long term services and supports system for this country, and the ACA will remain a vital legislative vehicle that will be built on to provide increased healthcare options for millions for years to come.

View the [opinion](#) in *Texas v. California*.

View [background information](#) on *Texas v. California*.