

## HEALTH ISSUES

Alert No. 2021-H-2

June 17, 2021

### U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Affordable Care Act in 7-2 Ruling

The United States Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a challenge made to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) brought by a suit (*Texas v. United States*) contending the law's individual mandate is unconstitutional. The challenge had the potential to invalidate the entire law. The majority ruling in *California v. Texas* today turned away the challenge from Republican-led states and the former Trump administration, finding they did not have the legal right to bring the case before the Court.

Justice Stephen Breyer delivered the court's [opinion](#) in the 7-2 decision, with Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch dissenting. The opinion held that the plaintiffs in the challenge "failed to show a concrete, particularized injury fairly traceable to the defendants' conduct in enforcing the specific statutory provision they attack as unconstitutional." The opinion did not speak to the underlying issue of the mandate's constitutionality. Legal challenges to the 2010 legislation previously came before the Supreme Court in 2012 and 2017. Today's ruling leaves the entire ACA intact.

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If you have any questions regarding this *Academy Alert*, please contact Matthew Williams, senior health policy analyst (williams@actuary.org; 202-868-7001).

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