

Satanic Temple files lawsuits against Indiana and Idaho over abortion bans

cnav.news/2022/10/07/accountability/legislative/satanic-temple-files-lawsuits-against-indiana-and-idaho-over-abortion-bans/

By Hans Gruber

October 7, 2022



A Satanic Temple plans to challenge Indiana and Idaho in federal court of their recent abortion bans. The temple has argued that the ban violates the rights of citizens in those states.

The Satanic Temple filed its complaint against Idaho on Friday. It filed a similar lawsuit against Indiana the previous week.

The temple, based in Salem, Massachusetts, said that their 11,300 members in Indiana are “unable to engage in the Satanic Abortion Ritual due to the criminalization of abortions” in the state, according to a copy of the lawsuit obtained by FOX59.

The temple has been known for filing lawsuits over abortion restrictions. According to Fox News, they previously filed a lawsuit in Texas to block a law that made abortions illegal after a fetal heartbeat had been detected, which usually occurs around 6 weeks into pregnancy.

“All we are asking for is the ability to exercise our right to religious liberty by participating in a ritual as part of our religion, free from government overreach,” Satanic Temple Director of Campaign Operations Erin Helian said when the lawsuit was filed.

A spokesperson for Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita said in a statement given to the Indianapolis Star, that the U.S. Supreme Court decided abortion is no longer a protected right under the Constitution.

“This new lawsuit merely offers weaker arguments for the same discredited right,” the spokesperson said.

The Satanic Temple is often mixed-up with the Church of Satan, however the temple said that they do not worship the Biblical Satan, rather, “the allegorical Satan described in the epic poem Paradise Lost—the defender of personal sovereignty against the dictates of religious authority.”