March 31, 2025

RE: ACLU Urges NO Vote on HR1526 - Will Score Vote

Dear Member of Congress:

The American Civil Liberties Union urges you to vote NO on H.R. 1526, the "No Rogue Rulings Act of 2025." This bill would prohibit federal district courts from issuing injunctive relief that extends beyond the parties to a particular case. This means that federal district courts would no longer be allowed to issue nationwide injunctions when examining federal policies, even if those policies have a nationwide effect. Because of the importance of this vote, the ACLU will be scoring it.

Federal district courts across the country play a critical role in our government's system of checks and balances. Injunctive relief is one tool in this system that is used to rein in executive overreach from administrations of both political parties by blocking implementation of federal policies that could cause irreparable harm.

Importantly, injunctions allow courts to stop or minimize attacks on civil rights and liberties to thousands – and sometimes millions – of people who may be similarly positioned as the litigants in a specific case but have yet to bring their case before a court. The result would be a patchwork of rights, depending on whether a person had the means to litigate or not, or, in the event of conflicting rulings in different parts of the country, on where they live. Access to constitutional rights should not depend on such variables. For example, in January, the ACLU won an injunction against the Trump administration's efforts to end birthright citizenship. Under this bill, the plaintiffs in this case would be able to get U.S. passports for their children, but other children born in on the same day in the same American hospital could be denied that right, or even potentially be subject to deportation.

In many instances, this legislation could effectively put the executive branch outside the reach of the law for the years it takes cases to be resolved on their merits. Many government policies affect millions of people. It is not practical for every individual to bring their own lawsuit seeking relief. Class actions are costly and time-consuming to assemble. Even if hundreds or thousands of individuals were to sue and win injunctive relief against a broadly applicable policy, an administration could continue enforcing an illegal or



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Deborah N. Archer President unconstitutional policy against others, likely for the duration of the administration.

The ACLU urges all Members to oppose this legislation and efforts that would weaken or undermine the judiciary's ability to uphold the rule of law and protect civil rights. Should you have questions about this legislation, please contact Chris Anders, Director of Policy and Government Affairs for the ACLU's Democracy Division, at Canders@aclu.org.

Sincerely,

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