

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UH Election Law Expert Froomkin Available on Breaking Supreme Court Narrowing Voting Rights Act in Louisiana Case

Houston, April 29, 2026 – In a pair of back-to-back decisions, the U.S. Supreme Court has redefined the legal boundaries of redistricting and Voting Rights Act enforcement just months ahead of the 2026 midterm elections.

Today, in *Louisiana v. Callais*, the Court issued a 6-3 decision limiting the use of race in redistricting and striking down Louisiana’s newly drawn congressional map that included a second majority-Black District and narrowing how Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act can be applied.

The decision follows the SCOTUS ruling earlier this week that allowed Texas’s redrawn congressional map to move forward, signaling a broader shift in how the Court approaches challenges to redistricting plans.

Together these decisions could reshape election law nationwide.

David Froomkin, assistant professor of law at the University of Houston Law Center and affiliated faculty in UH’s Department of Political Science, can provide analysis and in-depth commentary and context for your readers.

Froomkin, who specializes in administrative law, election law, and democratic and constitutional theory, says:

“It is hard to overstate how seismic—and how radical—today’s decision is. The Court is essentially saying that the problem with Section 2 is that it operates as a constraint on partisan gerrymandering. In the Court’s view, a state legislature should be entitled to engage in any level of partisan gerrymandering that it wants. After Callais, plaintiffs can only win on a Section 2 claim if they can show that the creation of a minority opportunity district will not interfere with the legislature’s political objectives—even if the legislature’s central objective was to maximize the majority party’s seat share at the expense of minority voters. So, the Callais decision is of a piece with other recent decisions of the Roberts Court tearing down protections of the democratic process, not just decisions like Shelby

County that have gutted the Voting Rights Act but also decisions like Rucho that have opened the floodgates of extreme partisan gerrymandering.”

He can also address:

- How the Louisiana and Texas decisions signal a recalibration of Voting Rights Acts.
- How these decisions shape the 2026 midterm elections, including legal strategies moving forward.
- What the Court’s rulings mean for the future of majority-minority districts and the consideration of race in drawing congressional maps.
- Implications for Texas and other states.
- The implications of using the shadow docket for major legal decisions
- The long-term impact on redistricting and election integrity nationwide

You can read more about Froomkin here:

<https://www.law.uh.edu/faculty/main.asp?PID=8606>

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