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REPORTER OF DECISIONS



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Per Curiam

DOE *v.* DYNAMIC PHYSICAL THERAPY, LLC, ET AL.

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE COURT OF
APPEAL OF LOUISIANA, FIRST CIRCUIT

No. 25–180. Decided December 8, 2025

The Louisiana Court of Appeal held that a Louisiana statute immunizing healthcare providers from civil liability barred plaintiff’s federal claims.

Held: The decision below was incorrect. A State has no power to confer immunity from federal causes of action. U. S. Const., Art. VI, cl. 2; see also, *e. g.*, *Howlett v. Rose*, 496 U. S. 356, 383; *Haywood v. Drown*, 556 U. S. 729, 740; *Williams v. Reed*, 604 U. S. 168, 174.

Certiorari granted; 2024–0723 (La. App. 1 Cir. 12/27/24), 404 So. 3d 1008, reversed and remanded.

PER CURIAM.

Louisiana immunizes healthcare providers from civil liability during public health emergencies. La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 29:771(B)(2)(c)(i) (West 2022). Below, the Louisiana Court of Appeal held that this state statute barred plaintiff’s federal claims. 2024–0723, pp. 11–12 (1 Cir. 12/27/24), 404 So. 3d 1008, 1017–1018, writ denied, 2025–00105 (La. 4/29/25), 407 So. 3d 623. That decision is incorrect. Defining the scope of liability under state law is the State’s prerogative. But a State has no power to confer immunity from *federal* causes of action. See, *e. g.*, *Howlett v. Rose*, 496 U. S. 356, 383 (1990); *Haywood v. Drown*, 556 U. S. 729, 740 (2009); *Williams v. Reed*, 604 U. S. 168, 174 (2025). “[T]he Judges in every State” are bound to follow federal law, “any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any state to the Contrary notwithstanding.” U. S. Const., Art. VI, cl. 2.

Plaintiff’s federal claims may well fail on other federal grounds. Cf. *Cummings v. Premier Rehab Keller*, 596 U. S. 212, 222 (2022). But that is for the Louisiana courts to decide in the first instance. The petition for certiorari is granted, the judgment of the Louisiana Court of Appeal is

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reversed, and the case is remanded for further proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion.

It is so ordered.

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REPORTER'S NOTE

The attached opinion has been revised to reflect the usual publication and citation style of the United States Reports. The revised pagination makes available the official United States Reports citation in advance of publication. The syllabus has been prepared by the Reporter of Decisions for the convenience of the reader and constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court. Other revisions may include adjustments to formatting, captions, citation form, and any errant punctuation. The following additional edits were made:

p. 11, line after the case name: "ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF" is inserted before "CERTIORARI"
