In the most recent U.S. Supreme Court term, the justices heard cases on controversial topics including mask mandates, affirmative action and Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. Join our esteemed panel as we dive into these issues and unpack their impact on state legislatures.

Moderator: Susan Parnas Frederick, Senior Federal Affairs Counsel, NCSL
Panelist: Morgan Ratner, Special Counsel, Sullivan & Cromwell
Panelist: Sarah Harris, Partner, Williams & Connolly LLP

Susan Parnas Frederick is senior federal affairs counsel for the National Conference of State Legislatures. She has been with NCSL since 2000. She staffs NCSL’s Law and Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee which handles civil and criminal justice issues and NCSL’s Executive Task Force on Cybersecurity. She oversees NCSL’s Task Force on Immigration and works on federal elections and redistricting policy issues affecting states.

Before coming to NCSL, she was a senior legislative counsel at the National League of Cities, an attorney in private practice in Alexandria, Va., and the deputy town attorney for Herndon, Va. She received her B.A. from the University of Virginia and her J.D. from the American University, Washington College of Law.

Morgan Ratner is special counsel in Sullivan & Cromwell’s Litigation Group and is a member of the firm’s Supreme Court and Appellate Practice. Prior to joining the firm, she served in the Office of the Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice where she argued eight Supreme Court cases involving various areas of federal law and filed over 150 Supreme Court briefs at the merits and certiorari stages. After graduating Harvard Law School, Ratner clerked for Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. of the U.S. Supreme Court and then-Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Sarah Harris represents clients in high-stakes appeals before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal and state appellate courts across the country. Her cases have run the gamut of substantive areas, including constitutional law, administrative law, arbitration, class actions, antitrust and federal civil procedure, among others. Harris clerked for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and Judge Laurence Silberman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.
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