

News From The States

THIS WEEK IN COMMENTARY

Programming note: *This Week In Commentary is taking a break for the holidays and will return Sunday, Jan. 7.*

Welcome to the best opinion pieces of the week from **News From The States**. Our commentary includes our own journalists from across our extensive network as well as outside voices to bring a wide range of perspectives and ideas. In addition to the sampling below, [you can look through all our commentary here](#).

TOP COMMENTARY OF THE WEEK

Blocking Trump from the ballot isn't an affront to democracy. It's the essence of it.

by **Quentin Young** | *Colorado Newswire*



*Former U.S. President Donald Trump.
(Photo by Doug Mills-Pool/Getty Images)*

Since the Colorado Supreme Court [ruled](#) that former President Donald Trump should be barred from the state's 2024 presidential ballot, blowback has been plentiful and passionate. The main criticism of the court's opinion is that it is undemocratic — that voters, not the courts, should get the final say on whether Trump should be president again.

Protests of this sort have come from Trump supporters, of course, but they've also come from opponents, who worry the ruling sets a [dangerous precedent](#) and smacks of [partisanship](#).

But blocking Trump from the presidency is precisely what democracy demands, and failure to do so would be a grave betrayal of democratic values.

[Read this commentary](#)

[*The Alabama attorney general's office and the stakes in 2024*](#)

by **Brian Lyman** | *Alabama Reflector*

[*Bill to limit children's social media use has a big obstacle: the First Amendment*](#)

by **Terrence T. McDonald** | *New Jersey Monitor*

[*Peace activists target Tammy Baldwin and praise Mark Pocan — but how far apart are they on Gaza?*](#)

by **Ruth Conniff** | *Wisconsin Examiner*

[*Our end game? We want government officials to respond to media requests for comment.*](#)

by **Leann Ray** | *West Virginia Watch*

[*The 2024 Ohio Supreme Court races will have critical impacts on the lives and rights of Ohioans*](#)

by **David DeWitt** | *Ohio Capital Journal*

[*Think food is pricey? Wait'll you see what authoritarianism costs.*](#)

by **Hugh Jackson** | *Nevada Current*

Just because you (pe)li)can change the state flag doesn't mean you should

by **Greg LaRose** | *Louisiana Illuminator*

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