

US Supreme Court temporarily throws out NY State limits on attendance in places of worship



The US Supreme Court has temporarily barred the state of New York from enforcing strict attendance limits on places of worship, in areas designated as coronavirus “hot spots”. The ruling, taken by a 5-4 decision, was released late Wednesday.

The high court ruled that New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s executive order violated the First Amendment’s “free exercise” clause, and actively discriminated against religious institutions.

The unsigned decision, read in part: “...The restrictions at issue here, by effectively barring many from attending religious services, strike at the very heart of the First Amendment’s guarantee of religious liberty.

Splitting 5 to 4, Supreme Court Backs Religious Challenge to Cuomo's Virus Shutdown Order

Justice Amy Coney Barrett played a decisive role in the decision, which took the opposite approach of earlier court rulings related to coronavirus restrictions in California and Nevada.

