

UN rights experts urge Philippines to reject death penalty bill

UN rights experts urged the Philippines legislature on Thursday to reject a proposed death penalty bill that would reintroduce capital punishment for drug-related offenses. Specifically, the bill authorizes death penalty for the "import, sale, manufacture, delivery and distribution" of narcotics and for crimes committed under the influence of dangerous drugs."

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US appeals court rejects emergency request to stop oil from flowing through Dakota Access pipeline

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on Saturday rejected an emergency requests from two native American tribes attempting to stop oil from flowing through the Dakota Access pipeline. As a result of this rejection, the Dakota Access pipeline could begin could begin operating as soon as tomorrow. The three judge panel rejected the request because the native American tribes "have not satisfied the stringent requirements for issuance of an injunction pending appeal.

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Washington state court upholds law allowing unionization of app-based and for-hire drivers

King County Superior Court Judge Beth Andrus upheld a Seattle city ordinance on Friday allowing app-based and ride-hailing drivers to vote to unionize. Specifically, the ordinance allows individuals making at least 52 trips in a three-month period—called "driver

representatives"—to vote on whether or not they should be able to unionize. Uber has previously challenged this ordinance claiming that the 52-trip requirement impinges on the rights of new and part-time drivers to vote on unionization.

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New Zealand parliament votes to give river same legal rights as person

The New Zealand Parliament voted Wednesday to approve a law that grants the Whanganui River the legal rights of a person. According to the new law the river, or Te Awa Tupua as it is known to the local Maori people, is now recognized as "an indivisible and living whole, comprising the Whanganui River from the mountains to the sea, incorporating all its physical and metaphysical elements," and "is a legal person and has all the rights, powers, duties, and liabilities of a legal person." In addition, the law mandates that two guardians be assigned to "act and speak for and on behalf of" the river.

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Texas Senate approves 'bathroom bill'

The Texas Senate on Tuesday approved the Texas Privacy Act, which would require people to use the bathroom that corresponds to the gender listed on their birth certificate. Passed by a 21-10 vote along party lines, the bill would override city ordinances and other practices that permit people to use restrooms corresponding to their gender identities in public schools, universities and government facilities.

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General Criticism Of Corruption In Judiciary Can Be A Ground For Taking Action For Contempt:

The Supreme Court bench comprising the Chief Justice of India, Justice J.S.Khehar, and justices Dr.D.Y.Chandrachud and Sanjay Kishan Kaul, held in a recent judgment that even if allegations of corruption were not aimed at any particular Court, the Contempt of court Act could be invoked.

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