

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF ILLINOIS, ADAMS COUNTY

THE TEXAS HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES,

**FILED**

AUG 13 2025

Petitioner,

*For. R. Schwandner*  
Clerk Circuit Court 8th Judicial Circuit  
ILLINOIS, ADAMS CO.

v.

No. 2025 MR 65

JOHN H. BUCY, III, in his official capacity  
as Texas State Representative, District 136, et  
al.

Respondents.

**ORDER**

This cause comes on for ruling on petitioner's emergency motion to rule on pleadings. After reviewing the motion, petition, and being fully advised, the court finds and orders as follows:

1. Before adjudicating any matter, an Illinois trial court must have proper subject-matter jurisdiction, personal jurisdiction, and venue. See *BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP v. Mitchell*, 2014 IL 116311, ¶ 17.

2. To invoke the subject-matter jurisdiction of a circuit court, a plaintiff's case, as framed by the complaint or petition, must present a justiciable matter. *Belleville Toyota, Inc. v. Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.*, 199 Ill. 2d 325 (2002).

3. The court does not find that the matter before the court, a requested civil contempt finding against respondents for evading service of Texas legislative Quorum Warrants during a special legislative session in the State of Texas to be, "the general class of cases that the court

has inherent power to hear and determine.”) *Pekin Ins. Co. v. Campbell*, 2015 IL App (4th) 140955, ¶ 31, citing *In re Luis R.*, 239 Ill.2d 295 (2010).

4. Here, petitioner seeks to transfer the legislative authority of the State of Texas to this Illinois circuit court “to initiate contempt proceedings against respondents” for the conduct of specific Texas State legislators during a special legislative session. Petition for Rule to Show Cause, p. 14, *See also* Ill. Const. 1970, art. IV, §§12, 14 [Investigations relating to conduct of legislators during a session is the exclusive jurisdiction of the legislative body.]

5. Petitioner’s emergency motion and petition for rule to show cause do not cite to any authority to allow this court to obtain subject matter jurisdiction to initiate the requested contempt proceedings. The court finds that petitioner’s general citation to the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the United States Constitution is insufficient for petitioner to demonstrate how this court has subject matter jurisdiction over such a unique cause of action. The court notes that the cause of action is unique because within the request to find the Texas legislators in contempt for conduct occurring during a special legislative session in the State of Texas, the petitioner also requests that this Illinois circuit court recognize, “the [Texas] Quorum Warrants as a public Act of the State of Texas that is entitled to full, faith and credit in Illinois...” Petition for Rule to Show Cause, ¶10, p. 5.

6. While Illinois circuit courts frequently consider petitions for rule to show cause, in such cases the singular issue before the court is whether there was a willful violation of a court order. Here, there is no court order petitioner claims that the respondents have violated. There is no underlying Texas court order that the petitioner seeks to register and enforce in Illinois.

Petitioner is seeking assistance from this Illinois court for, “any order or orders” in effectuating the service of the Texas House of Representatives Quorum Warrants, arrest the respondents and to return respondents to the State of Texas. Petition for Rule to Show Cause, ¶66, p. 14.

Specifically, the assistance that the petitioner is seeking from this court is to “initiate” contempt proceedings against respondents, make a contempt finding, issue Illinois civil arrest warrants, arrest the respondents, and then “return them to Texas.” Petition for Rule to Show Cause, ¶10, p.

5. Relief under a petition for rule to show cause, when an Illinois court has proper jurisdiction, would require the court to make a determination whether the respondents were willfully disobeying a court order, not to return the respondents to the State of Texas for legislative proceedings to make civil contempt findings that this court would have the proper jurisdiction to make.

7. This Illinois circuit court does not have the inherent power to initiate, consider and determine whether the actions of foreign legislators while in a special legislative session were contumacious and done for the purpose of willfully evading civil legislative Quorum Warrants issued by the State of Texas House of Representatives. This court, under a petition to show cause, does not have the inherent power to direct Illinois law enforcement officers, or to allow the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, or any officer appointed by her, to execute Texas civil Quorum Warrants upon nonresidents temporarily located in the State of Illinois. Further, this court notes that the Quorum Warrants issued by the State of Texas House of Representatives are geographically limited and specifically requests that the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives of the State of Texas take into custody the

Member, "wherever the Member may be found in the State [Texas]." See Petition for Rule to Show Cause, Exhibit 5.

8. As the petitioner has failed to present a legal basis for the court to obtain subject matter jurisdiction over this cause of action, this court is without jurisdiction to grant petitioner's emergency motion to rule on pleadings.

9. As the court does not find that it has subject matter jurisdiction, this court does not consider the issues of personal jurisdiction, venue or the merits of the underlying petition for rule to show cause or the request to issue a rule to show cause upon the respondents.

Entered: 8/13/25

J. Lamm  
Judge

cc: Counsel of record

I hereby certify that a copy hereof was:

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SAO ☐ PO ☐ Counsel ☒

Plaintiff ☐ Defendant ☐

8/13/25 SL  
Date Deputy Clerk