



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

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April 14, 2026

**Via E-Filing**

Mr. Blake Hawthorne, Clerk  
Supreme Court of Texas

Re: No. 25-0674, *In re Abbott*

Dear Mr. Hawthorne:

I write to notify the Court of two recent developments that reinforce the Governor's arguments.

First, on April 9, 2026, the Supreme Court of the United States denied certiorari in *Ronan v. LaRose*, No. 25A1096. There, a would-be candidate for Congress in Ohio argued his removal from the Republican primary ballot violated the Due Process Clause. The Ohio Secretary of State responded that the removed candidate had no federal right to demand more than the protest hearing afforded under state law. The U.S. Supreme Court denied certiorari, and not a single Justice dissented. Wu, likewise, is not due any additional process (like a jury trial) beyond this *quo warranto* proceeding in state court. Gov.BOM.33–36; Gov.Pet.Reply.5–8.<sup>†</sup> That is why, as the Governor has explained, the U.S. Supreme Court would lack subject-matter jurisdiction over any appeal from an order of this Court ousting Wu. Gov.BOM.36–37; Gov.BOM.Reply.21–22.

Second, on April 10, 2026, a committee of the Texas House found Wu liable for breaking quorum and voted to impose monetary fines upon him. That imposition of punishment is another recognition that Wu's behavior was *wrongful*—not a lawful exercise of constitutional power. Gov.BOM.44–50; Gov.Nov26.Ltr.1–2; Zhou.AmicusLtr.2. Wu responded, once again, by hiding

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<sup>†</sup> Counsel remains willing, however, to provide oral argument should the Court desire it.

behind tools he would render meaningless. He has consistently ignored the arguments for *quo warranto* as a concurrent remedy, *see* Gov.Nov3.Ltr.3–5; Gov.BOM.59–66 (describing constitutional and statutory text, centuries of common law practice, and court precedent both in and out of state), and argued that only the Legislature could compel or expel him, even though he fled its jurisdiction. Now, Wu says the Legislature can punish him with a fine—tacitly conceding he did *not* have a constitutional right to flee—but that he will have someone else pay for it:

**Gene Wu**   
3d · 

Friends, today the Republicans in the Texas House voted to fine us \$8,000 for breaking quorum & defending democracy. As the leader of the [Texas House Democratic Caucus](#), I am not giving up, I will keep fighting, but I need your help! Please consider supporting my campaign at the link in comments!

# GENE WU

DEMOCRAT FOR TEXAS HOUSE

Dear friend,

I just left a hearing where the Republicans are continuing to punish my fellow Texas House Democrats and me for standing up against Trump. They are assessing almost \$10,000 in fines to me personally for defending democracy and breaking quorum last summer. They're doing the same to every Democratic lawmaker who joined us in the fight. And, our legal costs continue to mount.

Our nation is burning and Republicans are focused on playing games. Their objective is to wear us down, demoralize us, and drain our resources. We won't let them.

Their efforts won't intimidate us. However, I need your help to hold the line.

[Please chip in however much you can to help us continue the fight in Austin, against these unjust efforts to silence our voices.](#)

We can do this, we just need your help.

Thank you,  
Gene

[Donate Now to Support Gene Wu](#)

Gene Wu (@genefortexas), FACEBOOK (Apr. 10, 2026, 7:31 PM), <https://www.facebook.com/1019132539/posts/10238945399986357/>; Renzo Downey (@RenzoDowney), X (Apr. 10, 2026, 10:02 AM),

<https://x.com/RenzoDowney/status/2042619244836180194> (discussing Wu’s assertion that quorum breakers “will fundraise to pay these fines” and quoting him saying “‘State law says any cost of a political process, a political cost of your office, can be reimbursed by campaign. State law trumps the House rules, period, right? There’s no mincing words about that. It’s just flat out, that’s the law.’”).

In other words, Wu not only accepted bribes in exchange for breaking quorum. Gov.BOM.7–8 (citing QR.00070–00071), 54–58. He not only pocketed around \$2 million to make good on his promise to “kill” an entire session. Gov.Jan20.Ltr.2 (citing QR.01532–01849). But he is now fundraising off *the punishment* for the quorum break. In a statement for the caucus he led before abandoning his office—and even after House members found what they did was sanctionable wrongdoing—Wu insists “we would make that same decision again.” Texas House Democratic Caucus, Press Release, *Texas House Democrats Respond to House Administration Committee Action on Quorum-Break Fines* (Apr. 10, 2026), <https://perma.cc/8RNN-8V43>. This Court must ensure he cannot. The people of District 137, of course, may choose to reelect Wu. But he clearly abdicated the remainder of his current term. By recognizing that fact, this Court may even save Wu roughly \$8,000 given he is no longer a “member” subject to House discipline. Rule 5, § 3, H. Res. 4, 89th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Tex. 2025).

Respectfully submitted.

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## CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Microsoft Word reports that this document contains 558 words, excluding the exempted portions.

/s/ Trevor W. Ezell  
TREVOR W. EZELL  
*Counsel for Greg Abbott, in his official  
capacity as Governor of the State of  
Texas*

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On April 14, 2026, this document was served electronically on all counsel of record.

/s/ Trevor W. Ezell  
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*Counsel for Greg Abbott, in his official  
capacity as Governor of the State of  
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