Supreme Court of Florida

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020

CASE NO.: SC20-646

WILLIAM S. ABRAMSON	vs.	RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR
Petitioner		Respondent

William S. Abramson petitions this Court for a writ of quo warranto, arguing that Executive Orders 20-111 and 20-112, issued April 29, 2020, by Governor Ron DeSantis, are null and void because the State Emergency Management Act (the Act), §§ 252.31-.60, Fla. Stat. (2019), does not contemplate the Governor's use of his emergency powers to impose restrictions for the purpose of responding to a pandemic. We conclude that a pandemic is a "natural emergency" within the meaning of section 252.34(8). Accordingly, we further conclude that, under section 252.36(1)(b), the Governor has the authority to issue executive orders to address a pandemic in accordance with the Act. Abramson has not challenged, and we do not address, any specific provision of the executive orders at issue. The petition for writ of quo warranto is denied.

CANADY, C.J., and POLSTON, LABARGA, LAWSON, MUÑIZ, and COURIEL, JJ., concur.

A True Copy
Test:

John A. Tomasino
Clerk, Supreme Court

db
Served:

NICHOLAS A. PRIMROSE
JOSHUA E. PRATT
JOE JACQUOT
WILLIAM S. ABRAMSON