



Arizona Sues Speaker of the House Over Delay Grijalva's Swearing-In



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WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Tuesday, October 21, 2025, Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes filed a lawsuit against House Speaker Mike Johnson over the continuous delay to seat Representative-elect Adelita Grijalva.

Adelita Grijalva won a special election on September 23, 2025, to fill the seat held by her late father, former Rep. Raúl Grijalva. It has been over a month since this special election, and due to House Speaker Johnson's refusal to bring the House into session, Representative-elect Grijalva has yet to be sworn in.

Speaker Johnson has declared numerous times that he will swear Adelita Grijalva in as soon as the Democrats in the Senate vote to end the government shutdown, yet multiple sources question the constitutionality of his actions. According to Attorney General Mayes, by failing to swear in Representative-elect Grijalva, Speaker Johnson is subjecting Arizona's seventh Congressional District to taxation without representation. Speaker Johnson insists that delaying the swearing-in ceremony is within his purview as the House remains in recess.

There are some Democrats, however, that believe that this delay is related to Representative-elect Grijalva's statement that she will become the 218th signature on a discharge petition needed to force a House vote to compel the Justice Department to release all of its files related to the Jeffrey Epstein investigation. An accusation that Speaker Johnson has repeatedly denied.

Raúl Grijalva had long been a friend of the Navajo Nation and a steadfast advocate for Indigenous rights. Throughout his career, he championed policies that upheld tribal sovereignty, protected sacred lands, and advanced the well-being of Native communities. We are grateful for his years of service and look forward to continuing this partnership with Representative-elect Adelita Grijalva, as she carries forward his legacy.