



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

MEDIA CONTACT:

nnlb.communications@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2025

President Nygren fails to appear to present the State of the Navajo Nation Address at the Fall Council Session



In the absence of Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, Vice President Richelle Montoya presented an overview of the State of the Navajo Nation Address.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — For the fifth time since taking office, Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren failed to appear in-person before the Navajo Nation Council to deliver the State of the Navajo Nation Address on the opening day of the Fall Session.

The President instead provided a written report and stated that he would not be in attendance at the session, citing the Window Rock District Court's recent granting of a temporary restraining order that stopped the President's unlawful termination of Controller Sean McCabe. The Office of Legislative Counsel clarified that the court order does not prevent or restrict President Nygren from appearing before the Council to present the report.

Operating under a limited budget due to line-item vetoes issued by President Nygren, the Council convened for the opening day of the Fall Session, prepared to receive the President's report on the status, challenges, and priorities of the Navajo Nation government.

Council Delegate Vince James expressed his frustration and called on President Nygren to resign from the presidency due to growing concerns from the Navajo people and ongoing allegations of wrongdoings within the Office of the President and Vice President.

Speaker Crystalyne Curley expressed disappointment and concern over the President's continued disregard for the legislative process and transparency owed to the Navajo people.

"The State of the Navajo Nation Address is a responsibility to our Navajo people," said Speaker Crystalyne Curley. "Our people deserve to hear directly from their President about the condition of our Nation, the status of our programs, and how his administration is addressing the federal government shutdown. His repeated absences show a troubling lack of accountability and respect for the Council and for the Navajo people."

Speaker Curley called on President Nygren three times in the Council Chamber, but President Nygren nor his staff members were present. In his absence, the Council provided time to the Vice President to provide an oral report.

In accordance with the Navajo Nation Code, the President is required to deliver the State of the Navajo Nation Address at the opening of each regular session of the Navajo Nation Council. The address provides an opportunity for the Executive Branch to update the Council and its progress and priorities and the overall welfare of the Nation.

The 25th Navajo Nation Council voted eight in favor and ten opposed to not accept the State of the Navajo Nation Report presented by Vice President Richelle Montoya.

###