



THANK YOU TO THE VOTERS OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA, WHO DID THEIR PART.

NOW CONGRESS MUST DO THEIRS.

Adelita Grijalva won her Tucson-area seat on Sept. 23 with nearly 69% of the vote, the election certified and credentials delivered to Washington. Speaker Mike Johnson says the House is “out of session,” but that hasn’t stopped others from being sworn in before. This isn’t procedure, it’s obstruction.



DENIAL OF REPRESENTATION

Grijalva’s constituents, over 800,000 people in southern Arizona, are being deprived of their voice in Congress. Without her oath, no staff can function, no legislation can be introduced and no constituent services can proceed. The House’s refusal to seat her effectively silences voters who chose her. That is not a procedural quirk; it is a constitutional crisis in miniature.

POLITICAL MANIPULATION & DELAY

There is strong reason to believe that the delay is not innocent. Grijalva would supply the 218th signature needed for a discharge petition to force a House vote on releasing the Jeffrey Epstein files, something Speaker Mike Johnson and House Republicans have resisted.

LEGAL & CONSTITUTIONAL BOUNDS

Under *Powell v. McCormack* (1969), Congress cannot refuse to seat a member who meets the constitutional qualifications of age, citizenship, and residency. By refusing to swear in Grijalva, the House is treading on dangerous ground. The Constitution mandates that each House judge only the “elections, returns and qualifications” of its members—not eject duly elected ones for political reasons. The longer this goes on, the more confidence erodes in American democracy.

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Whatever your politics, denying a duly elected representative their seat is a line no democracy should cross. If Congress can stall one certified winner, it can stall them all. Stand up, speak out and remind Washington that elections, not convenience, decide who serves the people.

Signed, Marjorie Hogue