



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

## 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

MEDIA CONTACT:

nnlb.communications@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2025

### Naabik'iyáti' Committee unanimously approves legislation to partially restore funding for 27 jobs cut by President Nygren



Speaker Crystalayne Curley sponsored legislation to approve a budget transfer providing temporary funding for 27 legislative positions.

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** — On Thursday, the Naabik'iyáti' Committee unanimously approved legislation to reallocate funding from the Office of the Speaker's personnel budget to temporarily fund 27 legislative positions that were cut through Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren's line-item veto actions.

"Unlike President Nygren's behind-closed-doors defunding of \$229,000 for missing persons needs for his travel expenses, the Naabik'iyáti' Committee considered the legislation, which went through the five-day public comment period, in an open meeting with the Navajo people watching," said Speaker Crystalayne Curley, sponsor of the legislation.

Legislation No. 0228-25 approves a budget reallocation in the amount of \$177,434 from the Office of the Speaker to the Legislative District Assistants (LDA) Program to address the 27 legislative positions that were only partially funded by the President.

During her presentation, Speaker Curley noted that the President's line-item vetoes restored only seven percent of the budget necessary to fund the LDA program for one month.

"If he truly wanted to restore funding for the LDA positions for one month, President Nygren would have restored ten percent of our budget," Speaker Curley said. "He shortchanged our staff and did not fully support all 27 positions."

Law and Order Committee Chair Eugenia Charles-Newton said the legislation provides stability and financial security to 27 employees who have been effectively discharged by the President's line-item veto actions.

"We have to think about our staff and the headaches they're going through," Chair Charles-Newton said. "It's disappointing that the President doesn't understand the budget and how his actions are impacting employees."

Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty offered an amendment, adding language to the legislation indicating that the needed funding necessitates a waiver of 2 N.N.C. § 185(A), which requires a majority vote of the Navajo Nation Council.

Delegate Crotty echoed the Speaker's statement about transparency stating that her constituents have voiced that they want to see actions taken in a public setting and on public record.

"We're fighting for Navajo Nation law and policy to be followed," Council Delegate Crotty said. "It's financial abuse to say, 'I'll fully fund you when you give me what I want.'"

The Naabik'íyáti' Committee voted unanimously to approve Legislation No. 0228-25 with a vote of 13 in favor and none opposed. The legislation now advances to the full Navajo Nation Council for consideration during the 2025 Fall Council Session, beginning Monday, Oct. 20.

###