



THE NAVAJO NATION

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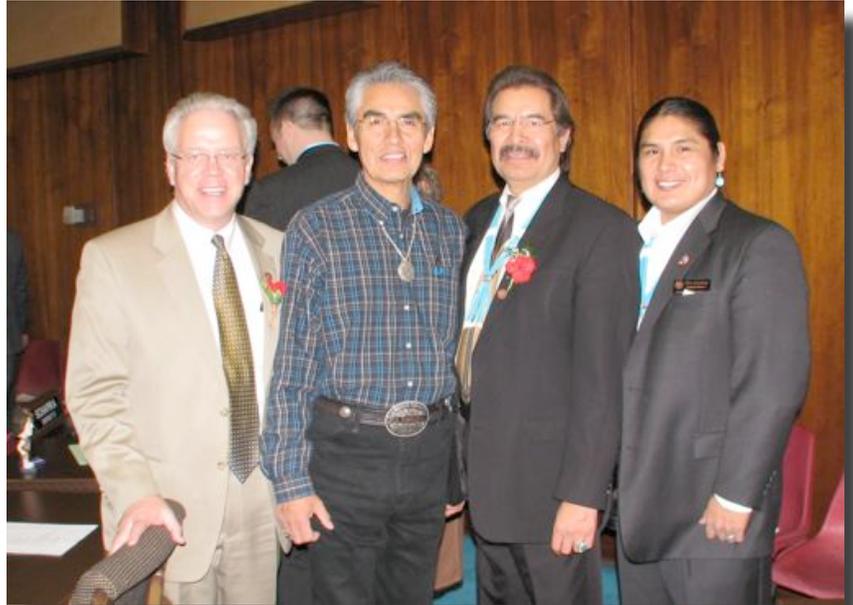
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Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., greets new representatives, bids farewell to friend, sister, mother of the people Gov. Napolitano

PHOENIX – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., attended the opening session of the 49th Arizona Legislative session on Monday to greet the Navajo Nation's new representatives and to bid a fond farewell to a woman he calls a friend, a sister and the mother of the people.

The President was the guest on the legislative floor of Senator Albert Hale, and District 2 Representatives Tom Chabin and Christopher Deschene. Moments earlier, he greeted Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano before she was introduced to the joint session to present her final State of the State Address and say a bittersweet farewell to Arizona and the legislature.

Afterward, President Shirley and Sen. Hale visited privately for 20 minutes with the Governor in her eighth floor office. Both expressed how fine a friend to Arizona's Native people and to Navajos she has been in her six years in office, and how much her personal leadership will be missed.



President Shirley was the guest of Arizona Senator Albert Hale, and District 2 Representatives Tom Chabin and Christopher Deschene on the floor of the 49th Arizona Legislature during Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano's final State of the State address on Monday.



Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., visits with Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano in her office to bid her farewell and good luck following her final State of the State address to the 49th Arizona Legislature on Monday.

She said because of her new job she doubted she would be able to attend this year's Navajo Nation Fair Parade which would be the first time in 10 years she would miss it.

The Governor said she would be on a 4 a.m. flight to Washington, D.C., Tuesday, and hoped that her confirmation as Secretary of Homeland Security would occur on the afternoon of Jan. 20 following the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama.