Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., to support Sen. Hillary Clinton in Feb. 5 Super-Tuesday election

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., told KTNN listeners on Thursday that he and First Lady Vikki Shirley plan to vote for Sen. Hillary Clinton on Feb. 5.

“That's all sovereignty to us. And we want so much to have Washington, whoever is the president, whoever is living in the White House, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Senate, we want them to recognize that.

“And I believe that Senator Hillary Clinton has recognized that prior to her running for the presidency of the U.S. She assures us that she’s going to protect our sovereignty, she’s going to stand up for our sovereignty, she’s going to recognize it.

“The government-to-government relationship is going to continue but what Native America likes to see is nation-to-nation, and I think that’s what I see in her presidency.”

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“The biggest thing I think is everything in Native America starts with sovereignty,” the President later told the Associated Press. “Sovereignty is a sacred thing to us. They found us with our sovereignty. Sovereignty in the simplest terms is independence. They found us independent, very fierce and very proud.

“And they took a lot of that away, but they didn’t take all of our sovereignty away, not the Navajo Nation. We still have our color, we still have our language, we still have our ceremonies, our sacred stories, our land, our way of life.