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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** Okay, thank you so much. Can I just have you slowly say and spell your first and last name?

[00:00:06] **Speaker 2** Jonas Hill, J-O-N-A-S-H-I-L-L.

[00:00:11] **Speaker 1** In which tribe are you from?

[00:00:13] **Speaker 2** Oneida Nation.

[00:00:15] **Speaker 1** And anything we should put underneath, are you an elected official within your tribe?

[00:00:18] **Speaker 2** Yes, I'm a councilman, council member, excuse me, council member for the Nav Nation. Yeah.

[00:00:24] **Speaker 1** A lot was said today in this speech, coming out of it, what are some of the things that are still sticking with you?

[00:00:30] **Speaker 2** I think recognizing the tribal self-determination and that tribes have the inherent sovereignty to govern the programs and services within the nation for our community members and the approach of enhancing support for financial resources for the nations.

[00:00:57] **Speaker 1** And when he spoke of tribal sovereignty and he brought it even to education he even made some points that people don't even know what that is. Do you think there needs to be more than just Act 31 in the classrooms to really educate the public overall on tribal sovereignty, economic independence, and what it means that actual government to government relationship?

[00:01:19] **Speaker 2** I think it's important. Our self-determination truly explains our identity as how we can self-govern as a nation. Tribes, through Act 31, education is key for anybody within the state. Intergovernmental relations are huge as well, and they play a huge role with being able to gain support in the assembly, the state side, fellow side. It's important that people know what these services do for our members. I think when an elected official sees an approval for a bill or something, they don't really understand that those are helping children and kids, or kids and families to get food on the table, to get to school, to get to work, to get clothes on their backs, those resources are huge for tribes.

[00:02:19] **Speaker 1** and he also spoke about the need for more language revitalization especially coming out of the era of the unfortunate boarding school era. How important is this moment of language revitalization not just in Alaina, but all tribes across the state?

[00:02:39] **Speaker 2** Cultural revitalization is huge, it's our identity, it's who we are, it's how we can be our people, you know, be us as people, Native people, by speaking our language, practicing our culture, attendance ceremonies, and being able to carry that on from our ancestors.

[00:02:59] **Speaker 1** Let's talk about the environment briefly. He spoke about the environment under the threat of climate change and also under the threats of the current political presidential administration. How important is it to maintain the environment in this time, in this era, when it's also has always been important to Native nations in the state?