

The New Jersey Assembly, Senate and Governor's office on Tuesday officially declared November 22nd as Turkish Cultural Day.

New Jersey lawmakers took the opportunity to pay tribute to three Turkish American organizations-- the Interfaith Dialog Center or I-D-C, the Pioneer Academy of Science and Turkish Cultural Centers.

There were ceremonies in both the Assembly and Senate. The Director of the IDC Dr. Levent Koc, and Director of the TCC-NJ Mevlut Kirazli and principal of Pioneer Academy were joined on the floor by three Congressional Members from the Turkish Grand Assembly, Abdurrahman Kurt, Canan Candemir Celik and Mehmet Nil Hidir.

Dr. Levent Koc thanked the assembly and senate members on behalf of the Turkish American Organizations and the community. Congressman Abdurrahman Kurt delivered speeches on both floors indicating the strategic partnership between Turkey and America and the Alliance of civilizations led by Turkey and Spain.

The Speaker of the Assembly Sheila Y. Oliver presented the resolutions. Then after the Assemblyman Thomas Giblin praised IDC's activities, which he attended many times. He also talked about his several visits to Pioneer Academy, whose academic success and good management that he appreciated very much.

Assemblywoman Alison McHose also talked about IDC's activities and her trip to Turkey with IDC in the summer of 2009, which she enjoyed very much

The Turkish congressional delegation presented Turkish hand-made vases to the Assembly Speaker and Senate President on behalf of Turkey's Parliament.

Ebru TV made a story about the day.

Pictures from the Event:



Turkish Congressman Abdurrahman Kurt addressed the Senate



NJ Legislators are with Turkish Congressional delegation during the reception



NJ Legislators are with Turkish Congressional delegation during the reception



NJ Legislators are in conversation with Turkish Congressional delegation.



with Turkish Congressional delegation during the reception



with Turkish Congressional delegation during the reception



Speaker of the Assembly Sheila Y. Oliver presented the 'Assembly Resolution' to Turkish



McNole addressed the assembly, praised IDC and said she had been to Turkey



signed the Turkey Education Academy of Science several times and





...nan Candemir presented Speaker Oliver a gift from Turkey



Turkish Congressman Abdurrahman Kurt addressed the Senate



...Stephen Sweeney presented the 'Senate Resolution' to Turkish American



...met Hidir presented Senate President Sweeney a gift from Turkey



Students from ...ner Academy of Science joined the ceremony with their national dresses



## Garden State Honors Turkish Americans

Last Updated Tuesday, 08 March 2011 18:01

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