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# Statement From Governor Chris Christie On The Celebration Of Hanukkah

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**Trenton, NJ** – Governor Chris Christie issued the following statement in celebration of the first night of Hanukkah:

“Tonight, Jewish families around New Jersey light the first candle in celebration of Hanukkah. They retell the story of a group of ancient Israelites who rose up against an empire that desecrated the Holy temple and prevented Jews from practicing their religion. Led by Judah Maccabee, the small band of Jews took back Jerusalem, freed their people, and re-entered the temple. They made a menorah and found only enough oil to light it for one day, but through a miracle, it continued to burn for eight days. In the 2,000 years since, the Hanukkah lights remind us of the importance of faith, hope, and perseverance. Mary Pat and I wish all who celebrate, a Happy Hanukkah, with optimism that the coming year will bring enduring freedom, prosperity, and peace.”

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