

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Sept. 21, 2005

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum  
Commission  
Commonwealth News Bureau  
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## **STATE MUSEUM FEE STOPPED PENDING MORE FUNDING SUPPORT**

*Museum seeks solid information on financial help*

**HARRISBURG** - - General admission to The State Museum of Pennsylvania will continue to be free through this fiscal year, as the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) works with Governor Edward G. Rendell and the Legislature to seek a commitment from the state on sufficient funding for the museum in the future.

At its regularly scheduled meeting today, the commissioners responded to the governor's request to rescind the plan by agreeing to delay implementation of an admission fee through the end of the current fiscal year. "We will work with the governor to get a better understanding of the state's commitment to future funding and how we will recover funds lost to deferring the fee," said PHMC Chairman Wayne S. Spilove.

The fee was intended to help meet costs after the museum realized a cut of \$300,000 in the state budget. Overall, PHMC's budget was reduced by \$1.7 million. It would have been the first time in the museum's 100 year history that admission would be charged. The commission took the action to approve charging a fee after it became clear that the state appropriation was not sufficient to cover the museum's operating costs.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is the official history agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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