

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

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**GOVERNOR RENDELL SAYS FIRST STEP TAKEN TOWARD  
IMPROVEMENTS AT PA LUMBER MUSEUM**

**Harrisburg, PA** –Governor Edward G. Rendell today said the commonwealth is preparing to select an architectural firm to design a \$4.6 million renovation and expansion of the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum on Route 6 in Galeton, Potter County

The project is part of an overall investment of more than \$5.7 million planned for the museum.

“I approved the design and construction of much-needed improvements to the visitor center at the museum in April. The changes will preserve and interpret the colorful heritage of our prosperous lumber era when white pine and hemlock were the wealth of the nation,” the Governor said. “This is another initiative in our commitment to promoting and developing the unique northern tier of Pennsylvania.”

The Governor said work is expected to be completed by early fall 2010.

Barbara Franco, executive director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, said the renovation project, including one or more additions to the existing building, will increase the size of the facility by as much as 7,000 square feet.

Work will include refurbishing the exterior and interior of the existing building, including new mechanical and electrical systems. Sustainable “green” design features and products will be used to minimize energy use and maximize use of recycled and locally produced materials. The design of the building will reflect the character and materials of other architecture in the region.

Franco said new space will be created for exhibits, a multi-purpose room and kitchen for hosting community meetings, educational programs, other special events, and for storage of museum artifacts and archival collections not on exhibit.

She said the project, including design and construction, is budgeted at about \$4.6 million. Another \$1 million will be used to acquire new exhibits.

The Rendell administration is committed to creating a first-rate public education system, protecting our most vulnerable citizens and continuing economic investment to support our communities and businesses. To find out more about Governor Rendell's initiatives and to sign up for his weekly newsletter, visit [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us).