



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

GREETINGS:

It gives me pleasure to join with the Council on American Islamic Relations – Pennsylvania (CAIR-PA) in welcoming everyone gathered for this evening’s banquet, “American Muslims—Connecting and Sharing.”

Our unique heritages and diversity contribute to our rich cultural fabric and make the freedoms we enjoy as Americans so extraordinary. As our commonwealth’s Muslim community has grown, so has your need to foster unity among each other and your neighbors. I am greatly encouraged by the potential for this event to lay the groundwork for building a sense of pride in your heritage and cultivating a society of mutual understanding and respect. I am certain that the inspiring words of former Ambassador Edward Peck as well as the music of Noor will help accomplish these goals among CAIR-PA’s members and friends.

During your visit to Philadelphia, I hope you will take the time to enjoy everything this exciting city has to offer—from its numerous cultural and scenic treasures to its fine dining and gracious hospitality. A short distance from your event you will find icons of our proud American heritage—the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and the National Constitution Center, to name a few. There is something for everyone in this great city, and we welcome you to make many new memories here at the crossroads of big city excitement and hometown hospitality.

As Governor and on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I thank everyone involved with CAIR-PA for your commitment to serving the needs of our commonwealth’s Muslim community and building a stronger, more united Pennsylvania.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward G. Rendell".

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor
April 7, 2007