



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
184TH WING
MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE KANSAS**



12 February 2024

TO: CHAIRMAN, SENATE FEDERAL AND STATE AND AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: 184 WING/HC

SUBJECT: Neutral Testimony for Chaplain Kapaun Memorial

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

As a government entity, I am submitting a neutral testimony as I am not supporting legislation but endorsing a legacy rather.

The Chaplain career field is one of the most unique career fields in our nation's Armed Forces originating on 29 July 1775. Our First Amendment is embodied and expressed by our Chaplain Corps in order to provide and provide for the free exercise of religion for all of our members and their families. Such guidance is provided by Joint Guide (JG) 1-05, *Religious Ministry Support for Joint Operations* and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 52-1, *Chaplain Corps*.

A memorial honoring Chaplain Kapaun properly recognizes a coveted honor to his individual accomplishments. In addition, his recognition as a Chaplain in the Armed Forces memorializes for Kansans and all those who shall read, visit and hear of this memorial, our continued commitment to the faithful calling of all Chaplains who embody and express our nation's first amendment.

These are the commitments shared by generations before us that are the foundations of this nation and it is through memorials like this we continue to cement our faithful commitment to those foundations for generations to come.

JUSTIN D. MOODY, Lt Col, ANG
Wing Chaplain