

STATE OF KANSAS



HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

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Committees:
Member:
Appropriations
Joint Committee on Corrections & Juvenile
Justice Oversight
Ranking Minority Member:
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget

24 February 2021

**Testimony in Support of HB 2353 to establish the Kansas Commission
for the United States Semiquincentennial.**

Chairman Waymaster, Vice Chairman Hoffman, and Ranking Member Wolfe-Moore:

I am the 8th generation daughter of John Locke, a farmer from Frederick, Maryland. He signed an Oath of Allegiance, took up arms in his local militia, and risked his safety to help create an independent nation. Because of my great grandfathers, I now can stand here today and be a part of a free and democratic process.

HB 2353 establishes the Kansas Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial. This state-level Commission compliments the Congressionally established U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission.

We are only five years away from our Nation's 250th anniversary. In preparation for this important celebration, this commission has been created to help plan and coordinate observances and activities associated with the 250th anniversary throughout the country. Last March, the Commission reached out to State Legislatures encouraging state level entities responsible for administering and organizing their local commemorations of the anniversary of our nation's independence.

As a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution I have a deep appreciation and pride for American History, the Constitution, and civil democracy. Now more than ever, I see an opportunity to bring positive attention to our nation's history by creating a significant celebration of our country's independence. This bill will establish the Kansas Semiquincentennial Commission.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have. I appreciate your support.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sydney Carlin".

Representative Sydney Carlin
66th District