

Lampe Heritage Farm and Pumpkin Patch LLC  
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**Testimony**  
**Submitted to the Special Committee on 30x30**  
**by Shelia Lampe**  
**Local Farm Bureau Board Member**  
**Woodson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director (former)**  
**President of the Southeast Kansas Tourism Region (former)**  
**December 9, 2021**

Mr. Chairman Rahjes and Committee Members,

My name is Shelia Lampe and I live in Piqua, Kansas, County of Woodson. I am pleading on behalf of Freedom Frontier National Heritage Area to ask you to consider it upheld in its present form. I will refer to it from here within as FFNHA.

I have been involved with FFNHA for 15 years. I was the Executive Director of the Woodson County Chamber of Commerce and the President of the Southeast Kansas Tourism Region (13 Counties) at the time of the formation of FFNHA. We quickly recognized that as a part of the Heritage Area we would all benefit as we knew from working as a region that a Rising Tide Raises All Ships. This was a locally driven incentive in which many local hearings and town hall meetings were held. Woodson County was one of those counties. Woodson County has Civil War Ties to Ophothleyahola Muscogee Indian Chief who is buried in Woodson County. We knew in the future we could benefit from FFNHA. Our County Commissioners wrote a Letter of Support to be a part of the Heritage Area. NOT to OPT in; But be in the FFNHA region for those property owners and museums which wanted to join. In other words, Woodson County may have areas that are Partners such as our County Historical Museum. But no one is obligated to join. And, no one may join without their written permission.

My husband and I are 6th and 7th generation Woodson County citizens. Our roots run deep. We own and operate a Farm in Piqua that was bought by my husband's Great-Grandfather and then Homesteaded by his Grandfather and Grandmother. Our Farm is the only 1\4 section with a home left from a full family section that was once owned by the Koester (maternal) family. We have a tenant farmer that row crops for us, and we plant and operate an Agritourism business. Our mission is to maintain the Rural, Farm and Agriculture way of life, to educate the local schools and families about said areas. We are not opted into the Heritage Area as a farm. We have no reason to be. I sit on the local Farm Bureau Board and have held state and district positions. We are also Chamber of Commerce members and very involved with a lot of Agritourism issues.

My point is this; I would never support anything that would jeopardize our family farm. We want our farm to become an eight and beyond generation farm. I totally understand why FFNHA it is being looked at and asked about. With all the rhetoric that is being released it should be looked into. But the truth must be brought to light. These non-truths about Freedom's Frontier being a part of 30 by 30 are completely false. Please listen with no preconceived notions as more facts are brought to you. As a past Founding Board Member of Freedom's Frontier, I implore to support keeping Freedom's Frontier intact.

Thank you for taking your time, and I would be happy to stand for questions.