

HOUSE BILL No. 2712

AN ACT establishing the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial as part of the department of commerce; prescribing commission membership, responsibilities, meetings and expiration; creating the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) Sections 1 through 10, and amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial act.

(b) As used in sections 1 through 10, and amendments thereto:

(1) "Act" means the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial act; and

(2) "commission" means the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial.

Sec. 2. (a) The Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial is hereby established within and as a part of the department of commerce to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and to recognize the impact of this event on the people of Kansas and the nation's past, present and future.

(b) The commission shall cooperate with the United States semiquincentennial commission and various state agencies, boards, commissions, departments and political subdivisions in order to execute commemorative events and to implement educational activities, events and celebrations related to the semiquincentennial of the United States.

Sec. 3. (a) The commission shall consist of 20 voting members as follows:

(1) The secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee;

(2) the executive director of the Kansas African American affairs commission or the executive director's designee;

(3) the executive director of the Kansas Hispanic and Latino American affairs commission or the executive director's designee;

(4) the executive director of the Kansas state historical society or the executive director's designee;

(5) one member of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(6) one member of the majority party of the house of representatives to be appointed by the majority leader of the house of representatives;

(7) one member of the minority party of the house of representatives to be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

(8) one member of the senate to be appointed by the president of the senate;

(9) one member of the majority party of the senate to be appointed by the majority leader of the senate;

(10) one member of the minority party of the senate to be appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

(11) the state regent of the Kansas society daughters of the American revolution or the state regent's designee;

(12) the president of the Kansas society sons of the American revolution or the president's designee;

(13) the president of the Kansas historical foundation or the president's designee;

(14) one professor of American history from a Kansas institution of higher education, appointed by the president of the state board of regents;

(15) one teacher of American history from a public school, appointed by the state board of education;

(16) one representative appointed by the Kansas native American affairs office;

(17) the commander of the Kansas American legion or the commander's designee;

(18) the commander of the department of Kansas veterans of foreign wars or the commander's designee;

(19) the president of the sunflower sampler foundation or the president's designee; and

(20) the chairperson of the Kansas state fair board or the chairperson's designee.

(b) Members shall be appointed for the duration of the commission but shall serve only for as long as such members remain in the position that originally qualified such member for appointment.

(c) A vacancy on the commission shall not affect the powers of the commission. Each vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 4. (a) The commission shall plan, coordinate and implement a program in 2026 to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. In developing the plans and overall program for the event, the commission shall:

(1) Give due consideration to related plans and programs developed by federal, state, local and private groups;

(2) hold public meetings to solicit the input of Kansas citizens throughout the state in developing programs for the semiquincentennial. The first public meeting shall be held within 90 days of the commission's first meeting and public meetings shall continue throughout the commission's existence;

(3) showcase all counties of the state;

(4) draw attention to the achievements, struggles, honors, innovations and impacts of all people in the state;

(5) clearly delineate all expenses incurred by the commission in developing the program;

(6) create a website to communicate plans for the semiquincentennial; and

(7) solicit gifts and donations from private industry, corporations and individuals to support the commission's goals.

(b) To aid in developing plans, the commission may designate special committees with representatives from groups described in section 2(b), and amendments thereto, to plan, develop and coordinate specific activities.

Sec. 5. Meetings of the commission shall be held throughout the state at times and locations determined by the chairperson, who shall be selected by a majority vote of the commission and may serve up to two consecutive two-year terms. In the case of a national, state or local emergency, making meeting in person dangerous or impossible, the commission may meet in another manner where all participants can participate with each other at the same time, including using an electronic platform. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the state regent of the Kansas society daughters of the American revolution or the state regent's designee. A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum.

Sec. 6. (a) (1) On or before December 31, 2022, the commission shall submit a comprehensive report to the governor, the secretary of commerce, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives that contains the commission's specific recommendations for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and related events.

(2) The report shall include:

(A) A detailed timeline of the commission's plan for the overall program through 2027;

(B) the commission's recommendations for the allocation of costs among public and private entities that provide financial and administrative assistance to the commission;

(C) the projected number of jobs created through the implementation of the commission's plan and overall program;

(D) the projected economic impact of the implementation of the commission's plan and overall program on the economy of Kansas;

(E) the geographic impact of the commission's plan and overall program on all counties of this state; and

(F) outputs and outcomes against which progress and success of the commission's plan and overall program can be measured.

(3) The commission shall make the comprehensive report available to the public on the commission's website.

(b) (1) The commission shall submit an annual report to the governor, the secretary of commerce, the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate detailing the commission's activities on or before December 31, 2023, and by December 31 each year thereafter. The report shall include an accounting of funds received and expended during the year covered by

the report, the outputs and outcomes achieved and whether those achievements meet the commission's plan and overall program goals.

(2) The commission shall make the annual report available to the public on the commission's website.

Sec. 7. (a) The commission may accept, use and dispose of gifts and donations of money, property or personal services. The type and quantity of gifts shall be enumerated and submitted to the Kansas governmental ethics commission each quarter and shall be made available to the public on the commission's website.

(b) There is hereby established in the state treasury the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund. Such fund shall be administered by the secretary of commerce. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be for promoting the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary or the secretary's designee.

(c) On December 31, 2027, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer all moneys in the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund to the operating expenditures account of the state economic development initiatives fund of the department of commerce. On December 31, 2027, all liabilities of the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be transferred to and imposed upon the operating expenditures account of the state economic development initiatives fund of the department of commerce. On December 31, 2027, the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be abolished.

Sec. 8. (a) The commission may:

- (1) Procure supplies, services and property;
- (2) enter into contracts;
- (3) expend, in furtherance of this act, funds donated or received pursuant to contracts entered into under this act in the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund; and
- (4) take action as necessary to enable the commission to effectuate the purposes of this act.

(b) Any action taken pursuant to subsection (a) shall first be approved by majority vote of the commission.

Sec. 9. (a) Commission members shall not receive compensation for their work with the commission.

(b) Non-legislative citizen members of the commission shall not receive compensation, subsistence allowances, mileage or reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 10. (a) The provisions of sections 1 through 10 of this act, and amendments thereto, shall expire on December 31, 2027.

(b) Upon the expiration of the commission on December 31, 2027, any property remaining property in the possession of the commission may be donated to local municipalities or other state agencies by the secretary of commerce.

Sec. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

I hereby certify that the above BILL originated in the HOUSE, and passed that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Passed the SENATE _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.

APPROVED _____

Governor.