

SENATE BILL No. 236

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-12

1 AN ACT establishing the Kansas commission for the United States
2 semiquincentennial in the department of wildlife, parks and tourism;
3 prescribing commission membership, responsibilities, meetings and
4 expiration; creating the Kansas commission for the United States
5 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund.

6
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 Sec. 3. (a) The commission shall consist of 14 voting members as
28 follows:

29 (1) The secretary of wildlife, parks and tourism or the secretary's
30 designee;

31 (2) the secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee;

32 (3) the executive director of the Kansas state historical society or the
33 executive director's designee;

34 (4) two members of the house of representatives to be appointed by
35 the speaker of the house of representatives, including one member each
36 from the majority and minority party;

1 (5) two members of the senate to be appointed by the president of the
2 senate, including one member each from the majority and minority party;

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

5 (7) the president of the Kansas society sons of the American
6 revolution or the president's designee;

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

9 (9) one representative from the Kansas bar association, appointed by
10 the president of the association;

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

13 (11) one teacher of American history from a public school, appointed
14 by the state board of education; and

15 (12) one representative appointed by the Kansas native American
16 affairs office.

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

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

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

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

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

34 (3) showcase all counties of the state;

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

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

39 (6) create a website to communicate plans for the sesquicentennial.

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

1 Sec. 5. Meetings of the commission shall be held throughout the state
2 at times and locations determined by the chairperson, who shall be
3 selected by a majority vote of the commission and may serve up to two
4 consecutive two-year terms. In the case of a national, state or local
5 emergency, making meeting in person dangerous or impossible, the
6 commission may meet in another manner where all participants can
7 participate with each other at the same time, including using an electronic
8 platform. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the
9 secretary of wildlife, parks and tourism or the secretary's designee. A
10 majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum.

11 Sec. 6. (a) (1) On or before December 31, 2022, the commission shall
12 submit a comprehensive report to the governor, the president of the senate
13 and the speaker of the house of representatives that contains the
14 commission's specific recommendations for the commemoration of the
15 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and related events.

16 (2) The report shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (b) (1) The commission shall submit an annual report to the governor,
33 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate
34 detailing the commission's activities on or before December 31, 2023, and
35 by December 31 each year thereafter. The report shall include an
36 accounting of funds received and expended during the year covered by the
37 report, the outputs and outcomes achieved and whether those
38 achievements meet the commission's plan and overall program goals.

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

41 Sec. 7. (a) The commission may accept, use and dispose of gifts and
42 donations of money, property or personal services. The type and quantity
43 of gifts shall be enumerated and submitted to the Kansas governmental

1 ethics commission each quarter and shall be made available to the public
2 on the commission's website.

3 (b) There is hereby established in the state treasury the Kansas
4 commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations
5 fund, and such fund shall be administered by the secretary of wildlife,
6 parks and tourism. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the
7 United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be for
8 promoting the Kansas commission for the United States
9 semiquincentennial. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the
10 United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be made
11 in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of
12 accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the
13 secretary or the secretary's designee.

14 (c) On December 31, 2027, the director of accounts and reports shall
15 transfer all moneys in the Kansas commission for the United States
16 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund to the operating expenditures
17 account of the state economic development initiatives fund of the
18 department of wildlife, parks and tourism. On December 31, 2027, all
19 liabilities of the Kansas commission for the United States
20 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be transferred to and
21 imposed upon the operating expenditures account of the state economic
22 development initiatives fund of the department of wildlife, parks and
23 tourism and the Kansas commission for the United States
24 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be abolished.

25 Sec. 8. (a) The commission may:

26 (1) Procure supplies, services and property;

27 (2) enter into contracts;

28 (3) expend, in furtherance of this act, funds donated or received
29 pursuant to contracts entered into under this act in the Kansas commission
30 for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund; and

31 (4) take action as necessary to enable the commission to effectuate
32 the purposes of this act.

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

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

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

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

42 (b) Upon the expiration of the commission on December 31, 2027,
43 any property remaining property in the possession of the commission may

- 1 be donated to local municipalities or other state agencies by the secretary
- 2 of wildlife, parks and tourism.
- 3 Sec. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 4 publication in the statute book.