

HOUSE BILL No. 2712

By Committee on Appropriations

2-17

1 AN ACT establishing the Kansas commission for the United States
2 semiquincentennial as part of the department of commerce; prescribing
3 commission membership, responsibilities, meetings and expiration;
4 creating the Kansas commission for the United State
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 commerce to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the
19 commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United
20 States and to recognize the impact of this event on the people of Kansas
21 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 20 voting members as
28 follows:

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

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

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

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

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

1 speaker of the house of representatives;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 (3) showcase all counties of the state;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (2) The report shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 (b) (1) The commission shall submit an annual report to the governor,
10 the secretary of commerce, the speaker of the house of representatives and
11 the president of the senate detailing the commission's activities on or
12 before December 31, 2023, and by December 31 each year thereafter. The
13 report shall include an accounting of funds received and expended during
14 the year covered by the report, the outputs and outcomes achieved and
15 whether those achievements meet the commission's plan and overall
16 program goals.

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

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

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

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

1 commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations
2 fund shall be abolished.

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

4 (1) Procure supplies, services and property;

5 (2) enter into contracts;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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