

1 **As Amended by House Committee**

2 *Session of 2001*

3  
4 **HOUSE BILL No. 2583**

5  
6 By Committee on Appropriations

7  
8 4-4

9  
10 AN ACT providing for commemoration of the Kansas territorial sesqui-  
11 centennial; creating the Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commis-  
12 sion and an advisory commission to assist the commission.

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

15 Section 1. (a) There is created the Kansas territorial sesquicentennial  
16 commission. The commission shall be composed of nine residents of the  
17 state appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be designated by the  
18 governor as chairperson of the commission.

19 (b) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation or  
20 reimbursement of expenses.

21 (c) The commission is authorized to hire staff sufficient to carry out  
22 the purposes of this act.

23 Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby created an advisory committee to assist  
24 in the work of the Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission. The  
25 advisory committee shall be composed of the following members:

26 (1) The executive director of the Kansas state historical society, who  
27 shall serve as chairperson of the advisory committee;

28 (2) the director of the Kansas humanities council or the director's  
29 designee;

30 (3) the director of the Kansas arts commission or the director's  
31 designee;

32 (4) the director of the division of travel and tourism development of  
33 the department of commerce and housing or the director's designee;

34 (5) the commissioner of education or the commissioner's designee;

35 (6) fifteen members appointed by the governor as follows: (A) Six  
36 members of history faculties of universities under the supervision of the  
37 state board of regents; (B) six members of history faculties of community  
38 colleges or private colleges or universities in the state; (C) a representative  
39 of the travel industry association of Kansas; (D) a representative of the  
40 Kansas museums association; and (E) a representative of the territorial  
41 Kansas heritage alliance;

42 (7) two members of the public appointed by the speaker of the house  
43 of representatives;

1 (8) two members of the public appointed by the minority leader of  
2 the house of representatives;

3 (9) two members of the public appointed by the president of the  
4 senate; and

5 (10) two members of the public appointed by the minority leader of  
6 the senate.

7 (b) The chairperson of the advisory committee shall appoint a person  
8 to serve as secretary of the committee.

9 (c) Members of the advisory committee shall serve without compen-  
10 sation or reimbursement of expenses.

11 Sec. 3. (a) The state motto, *ad astra per aspera* (“to the stars through  
12 difficulties”), references the seven-year struggle to make the Kansas ter-  
13 ritory into the 34th star of the United States flag. That struggle shall frame  
14 the remembrance of many of the important events in the territorial era  
15 that led to statehood, such as territorial elections in 1855, the battle of  
16 black jack in 1856, the Lecompton constitution in 1857, the *marais des*  
17 *cygnes* massacre in 1858 and many others.

18 (b) The year 2004 shall be considered the kick-off date for the re-  
19 membrance and commemoration of the history, heritage and national  
20 impact of the Kansas territorial era and, ultimately, for the commemo-  
21 ration in January 2011 of the sesquicentennial of Kansas statehood.

22 (c) The sesquicentennial of the Kansas territory, 2004, will be com-  
23 memorated commencing January 2004 during Kansas day ceremonies in  
24 Topeka. The Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission shall prepare  
25 an overall program for commemorating the signing of the Kansas-Ne-  
26 braska Act in 1854 and plan, encourage, develop and coordinate obser-  
27 vances and activities commemorating the creation of the Kansas territory  
28 in 1854 and its implications, both positive and negative, for the peoples  
29 in the region and for the future. Special consideration will be given to  
30 the history, heritage and national impact of the Kansas territorial period.

31 (d) In preparing its plans and programs, the Kansas territorial ses-  
32 quicentennial commission shall consider recommendations developed by  
33 the advisory committee and local and private groups. The commission  
34 may designate special committees with representatives from local and  
35 private groups to plan, develop and coordinate specific activities. The  
36 advisory committee shall recommend to the commission ways in which  
37 Kansans of all ages may become familiar with the events involved in the  
38 history of the territorial period in Kansas and the nation.

39 (e) The Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission, no later than  
40 July 1, 2002, shall submit to the governor a comprehensive report incor-  
41 porating the commission’s specific recommendations for commemoration  
42 of the Kansas sesquicentennial and related events. The governor shall  
43 transmit the commission’s report to the legislature. The report may rec-

1 ommend activities, including, but not limited to:

2 (1) The production, publication and distribution of books, pamphlets,  
3 films and other education materials on the history, culture and political  
4 life of the people in the region during the territorial period;

5 (2) the development of bibliographical and documentary projects and  
6 publications, a website and other interactive media;

7 (3) conferences, convocations, lectures, seminars and other  
8 programs;

9 (4) the development of libraries, museums, historic sites and exhibits,  
10 including mobile exhibits;

11 (5) ceremonies and celebrations commemorating specific events;

12 (6) programs and activities on the national and international signifi-  
13 cance of the territorial period in Kansas history;

14 (7) the issuance of commemorative medals, seals, license plates and  
15 certificates of recognition; and

16 (8) proposals for legislation and administrative action that the com-  
17 mission considers necessary to carry out the commission's  
18 recommendations.

19 (f) The Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission, no later than  
20 January 15, 2005, shall submit to the governor and the legislature:

21 (1) A report of all activities sponsored or supported by the commis-  
22 sion pursuant to this act and recommendations of how the state can sup-  
23 port continued territorial sesquicentennial activities and events from 2005  
24 to 2011; and

25 (2) recommendations for planning the sesquicentennial of Kansas  
26 statehood in 2011.

27 Sec. 4. (a) In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Kansas territorial ses-  
28 quicentennial commission shall consult, cooperate with and seek advice  
29 from appropriate state agencies, local and public bodies, learned societies  
30 and historical, patriotic, philanthropic, civil, professional and related or-  
31 ganizations. State agencies shall cooperate with the commission in plan-  
32 ning, encouraging, developing and coordinating appropriate commemo-  
33 rative activities.

34 (b) The chief executive officer of each state university shall cooperate  
35 with the commission, especially in the encouragement and coordination  
36 of scholarly works and presentations on the history, culture and political  
37 activities related to the territorial period in Kansas history.

38 (c) The state historical society and the state librarian shall cooperate  
39 with the commission, especially in the development and displays of ex-  
40 hibits and collections and in the development of bibliographies, catalogs  
41 and other materials relevant to the territorial period.

42 (d) The division of travel and tourism development of the department  
43 of commerce and housing shall cooperate with the commission in mar-

1 keting to potential visitors to the state commemorative activities enabling  
2 visitors to experience the cultural heritage of Kansas.

3 Sec. 5. (a) The Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission is  
4 hereby authorized and empowered to accept donations, gifts, bequests  
5 and other contributions of money to be used in furthering sesquicenten-  
6 nial activities.

7 (b) (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the sesquicen-  
8 tennial fund. The chairperson of the Kansas territorial sesquicentennial  
9 commission shall remit to the state treasurer all moneys received by or  
10 for the commission for the purposes of this act. Upon receipt of the  
11 remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state  
12 treasury and credit it to the sesquicentennial fund.

13 (2) Moneys in the sesquicentennial fund shall be expended only for  
14 the purposes of this act.

15 (3) On or before the 10th of each month, the director of accounts  
16 and reports shall transfer from the state general fund to the sesquicen-  
17 tennial fund interest earnings based on: (A) The average daily balance of  
18 moneys in the sesquicentennial fund for the preceding month; and (B)  
19 the net earnings rate for the pooled money investment portfolio for the  
20 preceding month.

21 (4) All expenditures from the sesquicentennial fund shall be made in  
22 accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of ac-  
23 counts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the chair-  
24 person of the Kansas territorial sesquicentennial commission for the pur-  
25 poses set forth in this section.

26 Sec. 6. The provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2005.

27 Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
28 publication in the statute book.

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