

STATE OF KANSAS

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TOPEKA
HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
CHAIR: EDUCATION BUDGET
JOINT COMMITTEE ARTS &
CULTURAL RESOURCES
MEMBER: APPROPRIATIONS

To the members of the House Education Budget Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in front of the Committee today on HB 2766.

Shortly before Session began this year, I was contacted by the Governor's Office to discuss with other House and Senate members the possibility of combining the Film and Arts Commission into a new entity within the Department of Commerce with a focus on jobs. I was very excited about the prospect of this. Last year when the Arts Commission had been given no budget, I was concerned as I know many of you on this committee were also. Our committee funded the Arts Commission, but you all know the previous outcome. With a new year and a new plan, I believe that the Arts Commission along with the Film Commission fit well under the Department of Commerce as being a part of Economic Development for our State. Housing the Creative Arts Industries Commission within the Department of Commerce will provide a better placement for this new organization in that it shows the benefits the Arts can provide to our State both economically as well as to our quality of life.

With the Creative Arts Industries Commission we will be able to coordinate and warehouse information for organizations which are within these fields in order to assist with job creation within these arenas. I believe that it will better promote some of the State's strengths to both our residents as well non-residents who are visiting here.

I appreciate your support on HB 2766 to help the Creative Arts flourish in Kansas. I will stand for questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lana Gordon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lana Gordon