

## HOUSE BILL No. 2353

By Committee on Appropriations

2-10

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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.

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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 250<sup>th</sup> 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 250<sup>th</sup> 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  
15 250<sup>th</sup> 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 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 of the department of wildlife, parks  
23 and 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.