

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2021

HOUSE BILL No. 2353

By Committee on Appropriations

2-10

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 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~~ 15 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 **(1) One representative from a county economic development**  
33 **corporation or local chamber of commerce, appointed by the secretary**  
34 **of commerce;**

35 **(2) the executive director of the Kansas African American affairs**  
36 **commission or the executive director's designee;**

1       **(3) the executive director of the Kansas Hispanic and Latino**  
2 **American affairs commission or the executive director's designee;**

3       ~~(3)~~**(4)** the executive director of the Kansas state historical society or  
4 the executive director's designee;

5       ~~(4)~~**(5)** two members of the house of representatives to be appointed  
6 by the speaker of the house of representatives, including one member each  
7 from the majority and minority party;

8       ~~(5)~~**(6)** two members of the senate to be appointed by the president of  
9 the senate, including one member each from the majority and minority  
10 party;

11       ~~(6)~~**(7)** the state regent of the Kansas society daughters of the  
12 American revolution or the state regent's designee;

13       ~~(7)~~**(8)** the president of the Kansas society sons of the American  
14 revolution or the president's designee;

15       ~~(8)~~**(9)** the president of the Kansas historical foundation or the  
16 president's designee;

17       ~~(9)~~**(10)** one representative from the Kansas bar association, appointed  
18 by the president of the association;

19       ~~(10)~~**(11)** one professor of American history from a Kansas institution  
20 of higher education, appointed by the president of the state board of  
21 regents;

22       ~~(11)~~**(12)** one teacher of American history from a public school,  
23 appointed by the state board of education; and

24       ~~(12)~~**(13)** one representative appointed by the Kansas native American  
25 affairs office.

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

29       (c) A vacancy on the commission shall not affect the powers of the  
30 commission. Each vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the  
31 original appointment.

32       Sec. 4. (a) The commission shall plan, coordinate and implement a  
33 program in 2026 to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of  
34 the United States. In developing the plans and overall program for the  
35 event, the commission shall:

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

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

43       (3) showcase all counties of the state;

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

3 (5) clearly delineate all expenses incurred by the commission in  
4 developing the program; ~~and~~

5 (6) create a website to communicate plans for the  
6 semiquincentennial; **and**

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

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

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

25 Sec. 6. (a) (1) On or before December 31, 2022, the commission shall  
26 submit a comprehensive report to the governor, **the secretary of**  
27 **commerce**, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of  
28 representatives that contains the commission's specific recommendations  
29 for the commemoration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the  
30 United States and related events.

31 (2) The report shall include:

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

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

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

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

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

43 (F) outputs and outcomes against which progress and success of the

1 commission's plan and overall program can be measured.

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

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

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

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

19 (b) There is hereby established in the state treasury the Kansas  
20 commission for the United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations  
21 fund, and such fund shall be administered by the secretary of wildlife,  
22 parks and tourism. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the  
23 United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be for  
24 promoting the Kansas commission for the United States  
25 semiquincentennial. All expenditures from the Kansas commission for the  
26 United States semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be made  
27 in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of  
28 accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the  
29 secretary or the secretary's designee.

30 (c) On December 31, 2027, the director of accounts and reports shall  
31 transfer all moneys in the Kansas commission for the United States  
32 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund to the operating expenditures  
33 account ~~of the~~ of the state economic development initiatives fund of the  
34 department of wildlife, parks and tourism. On December 31, 2027, all  
35 liabilities of the Kansas commission for the United States  
36 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be transferred to and  
37 imposed upon the operating expenditures account of the state economic  
38 development initiatives fund ~~of the~~ of the department of wildlife, parks  
39 and tourism; and the Kansas commission for the United States  
40 semiquincentennial gifts and donations fund shall be abolished.

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

42 (1) Procure supplies, services and property;

43 (2) enter into contracts;

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 (b) Upon the expiration of the commission on December 31, 2027,  
16 any property remaining property in the possession of the commission may  
17 be donated to local municipalities or other state agencies by the secretary  
18 of wildlife, parks and tourism.

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