Susan O. Estes Representative, District 87 Statehouse, Room 268-W Topeka, KS 66612

March 21, 2022

The Honorable Rick Billinger, Chairman Senate Committee on Ways and Means Statehouse, Room 545-3 Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Billinger:

SUBJECT: HB 2712 Establishing the Kansas commission for the United States semiquincentennial

Thank you for hearing HB 2712. This bill establishes a commission that can begin the planning and fundraising process for celebrating our nation's 250th anniversary. The commission was carefully designed to celebrate our country, honor veterans, and promote Kansas products in a well-defined process that allows for transparency and accountability.

Kansas was a leader in Bicentennial celebrations and recognized by the national Commission for building the All-American Indian Center in Wichita and creating outstanding programing at the State Fair. To achieve a similar level of excellence, it is important that Kansas establish the Commission as quickly as possible. There is a strong desire to begin planning and fundraising as quickly as possible.

Thank you again for hearing HB 2712.

Sincerely,

Susan Q. Estes

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