



THE KANSAS AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
State Capitol

January 4, 2024

Written Test Only in Support of SB36

RE: CrownActSB36

Greetings Chairman Senator Michael Thompson and Committee Members,

The Kansas African American Museum, located at 603 N. Water, Wichita, Kansas, serves as the cultural hub for innovative collaboration, familial and historic storytelling, thought provoking exhibits, highly sought-after collections and interactive continuous learning centered around the African American experience.

In the African and African American culture, hair is a vital component of a person's identity. The broad range of hairstyles adorn in the African American community serve as an expression of pride, place, promise and possibilities! Natural styles, braids, locks, and various enhancements symbolize the beauty, heritage, and history of our culture. It is critical that our society respects people of color who choose to wear their hair in natural styles in the workplace, without the fear of retribution or discrimination.

As we continue to educate and celebrate the richness of the African American culture, The Kansas African American Museum submits this written testimony in support and as a proponent of the passing of SB36.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Sherman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denise Sherman
Executive Director
The Kansas African American Museum