Session of 2012

HOUSE BILL No. 2694

By Representative Siegfreid

2-8

AN ACT concerning the state capitol building; requiring the establishment of an all faiths chapel a capitol prayer and meditation room.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) The legislature declares that:

- (1) Belief in God, prayer and meditation have played a significant part of the history and culture of the United States since its founding;
- (2) belief in God, prayer and meditation have played a significant role in the history and culture of the state of Kansas since its founding;
- (3) the historical importance of the right to worship God according to the dictates of one's conscience and of prayer and meditation is reflected in is guaranteed by section 7 of the bill of rights of the constitution of the state of Kansas and is reflected in the practice of beginning each daily session in the Kansas house of representatives and senate with a prayer; and
- (4) Kansas has a history of setting aside space in the state capitol for a place of prayer and meditation.
- (b) The legislative coordinating council shall reestablish an all faiths chapel a capitol prayer and meditation room as a place reserved for prayer and meditation in the state capitol building.
- (c) All costs associated with the construction, remodeling and furnishing of such prayer and meditation room shall be paid for by private donation. All donations shall either be made by anonymous means or, if not made by anonymous means, the names of such donors shall be kept confidential.
- Sec. 2. There is hereby established in the state treasury the private donations capitol prayer and meditation room fund which shall be administered by the secretary of administration. All expenditures from such fund shall be for the construction, remodeling and furnishing of the capitol prayer and meditation room with the approval of the legislative coordinating council. All expenditures from such fund shall be made in accordance with appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the secretary of administration or the designee of the secretary.

All private moneys received by the secretary of administration for

the construction, remodeling and furnishing of the capitol prayer and meditation room shall be deposited in the state treasury in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto, and shall be credited to the private donations capitol prayer and meditation room fund.

Sec. 2. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.