



RACIAL PROFILING ADVISORY BOARD OF WICHITA



Testimony in Support of SB 59

Presented by Sheila Officer, Chair Racial Profiling Advisory Board
Making a Martin Luther King Day at TOPEKA, our Capitol

"We know what needs to be done; all that is missing is the *WILL* to do it"
Nelson Mandela.

CREATING a Martin Luther King Day at our Capitol, means an education day for all:

- 1) *A day that educates our youth, and reminds our legislators about community, and commitment to service.*
- 2) *A MLK Day **should not** be a day confused with another, or in combination with another! It should be a day set-aside for amplifying the voices of those who have, and are serving, and their impact in their communities.*
- 3) *An appointed MLK day **should be implemented** and utilized as an opportunity to remind and educate our youth, as well as our legislators about what democracy is, and what we stand to lose, if we lose sight of who we as Americans are, and what our CONSTITUTION stands for.*
- 4) *An appointed MLK Day **should be an appointed day** of action, education, and opportunity. A day to encourage, inspire, inform and build a possibility for a future generation of leaders.*
- 5) *An appointed MLK Day at our Capitol **should be an opportunity** utilized to propel CONGRESS into a more **collective leadership** to get things done.*

Some may present the argument that we have a federal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King. Yes, we do. And rightly so. A day that we engage in community- based activities around various communities. Not a day where you can show Kansans how a bill is passed; how we do the work, and how they can become a part of the work that needs to be done!

*Martin Luther King Day **should serve as a "set apart day"** honoring his legacy of SERVICE, in such a way, that it presents an opportunity to educate, embrace, encourage, and inspire, future generations of leaders to be! Not a day of "feel-good words, with meaningless action.*

As chair of the Racial Profiling Citizens Advisory Board of Wichita, I request that you take this opportunity of service and charge your colleagues to pass SB 59.

"Education is the great engine to personal development." Nelson Mandela.

The RPCAB supports SB 59 and asks that you support, work, and pass this bill.

Thank you.

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