



THE KANSAS AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
State Capitol

February 6, 2023

Written Test Only in Support of SB59

RE: Martin Luther Day at the Capitol

Greetings Chairman Senator Mike Thompson and Committee Members,

The Kansas African American Museum (TKAAM), 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. It is our mission to support initiatives, programs, and educational opportunities that promote and strengthen the history, education, and experience of the African American culture.

TKAAM considers African American history an integral part of collective legacy. In doing so, we present and explore all opportunities that encompasses the past, creates a bridge to the present, in order to preserve the future. The legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, is an example and opportunity to educate the community on the important work that was done during the civil rights era. From September 1, 2022 thru October 20, 2022, The Kansas African American Museum hosted a traveling exhibition titled " I AM A Man: *Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement*" which chronicled the activities and influences of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, from 1960 to 1970. This powerful exhibition covered many of Dr. Kings' most impactful activities, as well as his immediate influence that help shape the next decade. The photos, audio, documents, and books focused on the significant events that were part of the leadership of Dr. King. Our visitors expressed gratitude for the opportunity to have this immersive experience in Kansas.

As we celebrate the richness of the African American history, The Kansas African American Museum submits this written testimony in support and a proponent of the passing of SB59 for the purposes of passing into law and appropriately honoring the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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
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Wichita, Ks 67203
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