



**KANSAS NOW**

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April 23, 2010

Kansas Department of Commerce  
1000 SW Jackson St  
Suite 100  
Topeka, KS 66612-1354

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter today to inquire about the progress of the Kansas Department of Commerce toward the task it has been charged with...the task of moving Amelia Earhart to Washington DC.

SCR 1617 was passed and signed into law by Governor Bill Graves in 1999. This resolution sought to replace the current statues representing Kansas at the US Capitol. Our state statues at that time were George W Glick and Senator John James Ingalls. The resolution was a commitment by the state to replace those statues with the statues of President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Amelia Earhart.

Due to the passage of the resolution and successful fundraising by the Eisenhower Foundation, President Eisenhower now represents all Kansans in the National Statuary Hall. However, Amelia has not yet found her way to Washington DC. SCR 1617 left fundraising efforts for Amelia up to the City of Atchison and the Atchison Chamber of Commerce. However, it does go on to state that if these local entities are unable to generate the income, that the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing would "ultimately" be charged with the task.

The importance of placing Amelia in our Nation's Capitol is not only one of a commitment by the State of Kansas to its citizens solidified by law, but is also of great significance to the women of the nation. Currently, only 9 women are represented among the 100 statues in the National Statuary Hall. This sends a message of discrimination and undervalues the great accomplishments and contributions that women have made toward the building of our great nation. Your assistance and follow through toward moving Amelia Earhart to her rightful place in Washington would be greatly appreciated by women everywhere.

Please let me know how Kansas NOW can assist you in this highly significant and worthwhile endeavor.

For Equality,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kari A. Rinker". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kari Ann Rinker  
State Coordinator for Kansas NOW