

**PROCLAMATION**

14-03

National Tourism Week

*May 3-11, 2014*

Whereas, travel matters deeply to the economic prosperity of Kansas, as well as to business wealth and to comfort and pleasure of individual travelers; and

Whereas, tourism is responsible for creating 4.4 percent of the total Kansas Gross State Product and is the third largest industry in the state based on employment; and

Whereas, travel to and within the Kansas provides significant economic benefits for the state, generating \$5.8 billion in economic output in 2011, with \$4.5 billion in direct benefit to core tourism industries while spurring an additional \$1.3 billion in economic enhancement to indirect industries;

Whereas, travel is among Kansas' largest private-sector employers, supporting 128,000 core industry jobs in 2011, an increase of 7.8 percent more than 2009; an additional 19,580 indirect jobs were supported by core tourism activity;

Whereas, travelers' spending generated 14.4 percent of all Kansas state and local tax revenues resulting in a tourism tax contribution average of \$917 per Kansas household;

Whereas, leisure and business travel, taken in the Kansas, spurs countless benefits to travelers' creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity, relationships and wellness;

Whereas, travel is a catalyst that moves local, state and national economies forward;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, Kansas, does hereby proclaim the week of May 3 through 11, 2014, as National Travel and Tourism Week in Kansas and urge the citizens of Franklin County to join in this special observance with appropriate events and commemoration.

Signed this 30th day of April 2014.

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Steve Harris, Chairman