



**Travel Industry
Association of Kansas**

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June 14, 2021

Senator Jerry Moran
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Moran:

The Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK) would like to express our support of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA) and urge your support of its reauthorization.

FFNHA comprises 41 counties along the Kansas eastern border and Missouri western border and was one of the bloodiest and hotly contested battlegrounds during the Civil War. People from around the world visit Freedom's Frontier and learn a part of American history that might otherwise be lost.

Freedom's Frontier has no impact on property rights. Its authorizing legislation explicitly forbids the taking of any private land. It cannot own land, change water rights, or have any jurisdiction over what individual citizens do. Every partner of the heritage area comes into it voluntarily. Today there are 324 partner sites through FFNHA.

National heritage areas have been resounding successes in preserving local history and telling old stories to inform new problems. Cities, counties, local historical societies, and a host of philanthropic and civic organizations have stepped up in every heritage area as partners. The heritage areas also have become significant economic development contributors. Multiple studies show that for every federal dollar a heritage area collects, \$5.50 in economic activity is generated.

As we emerge from this pandemic, one thing is clear—the public yearns to travel. With travel, money comes into the state and our local communities prosper. The FFNHA is important to Kansas as we work to preserve stories, advance civic education, encourage travel and promote the history of the state.

We encourage you to support the reauthorization of the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area.

Sincerely,

Jim Zaleski
President
Travel Industry Association of Kansas