

**WHEREAS,** the travel industry ranks as the 3rd largest industry in Kansas and is among the largest private sector employers in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** visitors to the Sedgwick County area each year contribute \$600 million in economic activity, generating \$62 million in tax revenue for city, county and state governments, providing employment for 11,200 people in the Wichita MSA, and creating a payroll of \$170 million; and

**WHEREAS,** leisure travel, which accounts for more than three-quarters of all trips taken in the United States, spurs countless benefits to travelers' creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity, relationships and wellness; and

**WHEREAS,** business travel serves as a catalyst that moves the national economy forward through meetings, conventions and events, which are core business functions that help companies strengthen business relationships, align and educate employees and customers, and reward business performance.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Tim Norton, Chairman of the Board of Sedgwick County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 5-13, 2012, as

**“NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK”**

and encourage the people of Sedgwick County to join in this special observance with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

May 9, 2012