RESOLUTION 2016-01

Regarding Accessibility Issues of Touch Screen Kiosks At Kansas State Capitol

WHEREAS, Title 2 of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)requires all state governments and all administrative subdivisions thereof to make their facilities, programs, and services accessible to all persons with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the installation and use of touch screen kiosks are rapidly becoming pervasively applied in a wide variety of venues and applications such as airport check-ins, payment processing, office visit sign-ins, voting machines, etc., and

WHEREAS, touch screen technology is inherently inaccessible to blind people unless screenreader and screen magnification assistive technology is included in the design of a touch screen device; and

WHEREAS, the National Federation of the Blind has an established policy priority of vigorous enforcement of accessibility of touch screen technology including touch screen kiosks; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Historical Society (KHS) provides two (2) touch screen kiosks located in the Visitor Center at the Kansas State House in Topeka, and

WHEREAS, these kiosks have been discovered by several blind Kansas residents to have major deficiencies in the design of accessibility features including, among other problems, the inability to initiate screenreader access independently,

The lack of narrative description of maps and travel pathways in the State House buildings and grounds, and the lack of logical and systematic access to the menu tree, to name but a few deficiencies; and

WHEREAS, these and other deficiencies may or may not be in compliance with Title 2 of ADA:

now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the National Federation of the Blind of Kansas in convention assembled this sixth day of November in the city of Topeka Kansas that we call upon Jennie chin, Executive Director of KHS, to plan and implement all necessary changes to make the above mentioned touch screen kiosks fully accessible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge Ms. Chinn and the KHS management team to consult closely with us in the planning and testing phases of the completion of the kiosk accessibility process.