January 31, 2022

To the Chairman of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

As a Leavenworth Community member for twenty years, I want to express my staunch support for SB 179 that will designate February 15 as Susan B. Anthony Day in Kansas.

History has always been a fundamental facet of our lives. As a military family moving to Fort Leavenworth and Leavenworth, we have been honored to reside in a place on record for being first in so many ways. Because of Miss Anthony's steadfast dedication to the Women's Suffrage Movement and work to garner the vote for women, it is about time she has the recognition she deserves. Her standards of excellences and commitment have not only touched those that were near to her but all future generations. The connections she has to the city of Leavenworth, the state of Kansas, and our national history need to be front and center for all to remember on a regular basis. Because of her work gaining voting rights and the freedoms for women, those deeds helped stitch the fabric of our nation tighter creating a standard of equality. This alone demands she be honored with this annual designation.

My mother and father taught me of her strength and I continue to pass those lessons to my children and grandchildren. While substantial numbers can do countless things, a single individual must be able to defend themselves. A person's vote is one way they can do that. May her words that follow continue to echo for generations to come. "I declare to you that woman must not depend upon the protection of man but must be taught to protect herself, and there I take my stand." It is with great humility, respect, and resolve that I plead with you to help make her legacy grow and to make February 15 Susan B. Anthony Day. I humbly thank you for your time and consideration.

My Warmest regards,

Alisa J. Mahone Murphy

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