

January 31, 2022

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

I urge you and respective committee members to pass SB 179 that would declare each February 15th Susan B. Anthony Day in the State of Kansas. As you know, Susan B. Anthony, born on February 15, 1820, first campaigned for woman suffrage here in 1867, because Kansas was the first state in the nation to hold a referendum on woman suffrage. She campaigned tirelessly across the entire state with other national suffragists and considered Lawrence the “headquarters of the movement.” That year, Miss Anthony also chose yellow as a color for woman suffrage to celebrate Kansas sunflowers, a color that remained in suffragists’ sashes through the 1920 victory of the Nineteenth Amendment.

Miss Anthony returned to Kansas frequently and also congratulated our state suffragists in 1887, when Kansas became the first state to grant municipal suffrage to women. As a result, the State of Kansas figures prominently in several volumes of her *History of Women Suffrage*, co-authored with her colleagues. After her death in 1906, Kansas women earned universal suffrage in 1912.

It would mean so much for all Kansas women and girls to have February 15 declared Susan B. Anthony Day in Kansas. Thank you in advance for doing everything possible to make this memorable day happen for all Kansas citizens.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeanne Klein

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