House Redistricting Committee SW 8<sup>th</sup> & SW Van Buren St. Topeka, KS 66612

January 13, 2022

Dear Chairman Croft and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Coatney. I am a resident of Montgomery County. I write today to encourage you to oppose efforts to include Montgomery County in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District.

Although many consider rural counties substantially similar, rural counties in Eastern Kansas are much different than those in Western Kansas. For years, Montgomery County citizens felt underrepresented in Congress. Having previously been included in the 4<sup>th</sup> District, the interest of Wichita constituents consistently trumped the interest of Montgomery County. Having been part of the Second District for nearly 20 years, Montgomery County residents finally feel adequately represent in Washington. Being grouped with other Counties in Eastern Kansas, our common interests are finally being heard. Putting Montgomery County in the geographically vast and demographically diverse 1<sup>st</sup> District would again reduce our voice in Congress.

Please oppose any proposal which would remove Montgomery County from the Second

Congressional District

Sarah Coatney

Montgomery County Resident