



January 31, 2022

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

On behalf of the Leavenworth Kansas Convention and Visitors Bureau, I would like to express support for SB 179 designating February 15 as Susan B. Anthony Day in Kansas.

Leavenworth is the “First City of Kansas” and Fort Leavenworth is the oldest continuously operating Army post west of the Mississippi River. With all of the “Firsts” in the women’s suffrage movement happening in Kansas, we are in support of this designation.

Kansas was the first State to grant women the right to vote in school elections in 1861.

The first woman suffrage campaign was held in Kansas and so the sunflower and the color yellow were adopted as symbols by the national movement.

The first national proposal for women’s suffrage was presented to the U.S. Congress in 1868 by Senator S.C. Pomeroy of Kansas. Miss Anthony appeared before every Congress from 1869 to 1906 to ask for passage of a suffrage amendment.

Susan B. Anthony successfully led the campaign for women’s municipal suffrage in Kansas in 1887. The bill was signed by then Gov. John A. Martin on February 15. Miss Anthony celebrated her birthday that day in Lawrence, Kansas.

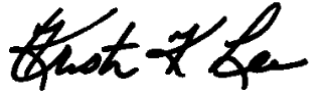
Susan B. Anthony traveled to Kansas frequently to campaign and to visit her brother, Col. Daniel R. Anthony and his family, who owned and operated the Leavenworth Times. The nephew of Miss Anthony, Daniel R. Anthony, Jr., voted for the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment as a State Representative of Kansas and introduced the Equal Rights Amendment in the U.S. Congress in 1923.

The nations’ first local chapter of the League of Women Voters, to help educate and inform women voters, was formed in Sedgwick County, Kansas in 1919.

On behalf of the Leavenworth Convention and Visitors Bureau, I ask for your support for

HB2650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristi K. Lee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kristi" being more prominent than the last name "Lee".

Kristi K. Lee

Director

**KRISTI K. LEE, CDME**

Director, Leavenworth Convention

and Visitors Bureau

100 N 5th St., Rm 104

Leavenworth, KS 66048

(913) 758-6725 office | (913) 306-2783 cell