

5 February 2019

Ethics, Elections and Local Government Committee Kansas Senate Topeka, Kansas

**Dear Committee Members:** 

In 1968 members of our community voted to approve a library. That library has been a vital part of our community since that vote. The library has grown, expanded and offered programs to our community for over fifty years!

The librarians started a children's hour once a week - now there are daily story hours and often with more children in attendance than our space allows. A summer reading program was started for young people in the summer. Our caring and astute librarians realized children weren't going home for lunch, so Feeding Eudora began. That program completely outgrew the library and this summer over 4000 lunches were served in the park.

A teen reading program was started. The first year about 30 teens participated, then 100, then over 100! The library became a safe gathering place for teens and they were being encouraged to read and learn.

Our library is a vital part of our community, loved and supported by the community. Please support SB 59. This will establish a library district as requested by a joint resolution of the City Commission and the Township Board. The library district will be governed by community members appointed to a Board of Directors.

We are a small and very diverse community. Please help us maintain this wonderful library that means so much to so many people - young and old!

Respectfully.

Vestana yon Achen Ahlen

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