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Rebecca Kleefisch Steps Down as Executive Director of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

-The WSCC Celebrates the Leadership of Outgoing Executive Director-

WASHINGTON D.C., October 17, 2019 - The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission (WSCC) announced today that Executive Director Rebecca Kleefisch has resigned, effective immediately. Kleefisch plans to return to work in her native Wisconsin to be closer to her home and family. Anna Laymon, Director of National Programs and Strategic Engagement for the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, will serve as Acting Executive Director.

Kleefisch was the Executive Director of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission from January-October 2019. She was appointed to the Commission by Congressman Paul Ryan, and after serving as Chair of the WSCC from October-December 2018, Kleefisch was selected to be the Executive Director of the agency. Previously, Kleefisch served two terms as the 44th Lt. Gov. of Wisconsin, the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment.

Describing her time as Executive Director of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, Kleefisch said, "It has been an honor to lead this country's efforts to commemorate the rich history of the 19th Amendment. It was a privilege to work with a team so dedicated to raising up the legacy of the generations of suffragists who fought for women's right to vote. I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved in the last 10 months to ensure that the story of the suffragists is taught, told, and remembered for generations to come."

WSCC Chairwoman Susan Combs said, "Rebecca's strong leadership and unflinching work ethic were the driving force of the Commission's efforts to inspire Americans with the story of the suffrage movement. Her vision will have a lasting impact on the mission of the Commission, and we thank her for her passion, drive, and dedication to the history."

WSCC Vice Chairwoman Colleen Shogan echoed the sentiments, saying, "In 2020, Americans will know the story of the brave women who waged and won the fight for the vote due in large part to Rebecca's commitment to this vital movement in U.S. history. The Commission is grateful to Rebecca for her tremendous efforts to commemorate the centennial of the 19th Amendment."

For more information about the Commission and its mission to celebrate 100 years of women's right to vote, visit womensvote100.org.