



Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G

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ANC 3/4G DC Statehood Resolution

Background and Rationale

- 1) The United States is founded on the belief that all people are endowed with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--that to secure these rights, governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.
- 2) The people of the District of Columbia are denied full American citizenship while bearing all of the responsibilities of citizenship, and do not enjoy all of the rights of citizenship.
- 3) Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton has stated "The single idea of 'taxation without representation' that gave rise to the American Revolution still resonates today, D.C. residents pay the highest federal taxes per capita and more federal taxes than 19 states. D.C. residents have fought and died in every war since the Revolution, and they deserve voting representation in Congress and full local self-government."ⁱ
- 4) D.C. residents pay the highest federal taxes per capita and more federal taxes than 19 states. The DC Fiscal Policy Institute estimates that Washington D.C. loses around 3 billion dollars without statehood.ⁱⁱ
- 5) On multiple occasions, a majority of the voters of the District of Columbia have approved initiatives and referendums expressing their desire for statehood, most recently on November 8, 2016, through which 85.69%ⁱⁱⁱ of voters 1) agreed that the District should be admitted to the union as the State of Washington, D.C., 2) approved the Constitution of the State of Washington, D.C.,^{iv} 3) approved the proposed boundaries between the State of Washington, D.C. and the federal enclave,^v and 4) agreed that the State of Washington, D.C. shall guarantee an elected representative form of government.^{vi}

6) “Washington, DC is a historically Black city. The District’s lack of representation is a wider oppression and disenfranchisement of Black Americans. If admitted to the union, the District would be the only plurality-Black state in the country. This would highlight the importance towards making Congress more responsive to the needs of a diversifying electorate and fixing racial inequalities.”^{vii}

7) Without statehood Congress has the ability to interfere with the District of Columbia’s local self-government and Home Rule by enacting resolutions disapproving, amending, or repealing actions of the Council of the District of Columbia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

8) In 2014, the New Columbia Statehood Commission was created to coordinate DC's statehood initiatives. The Commission provides support to the shadow Congressional Delegation in promoting statehood for DC and voting rights for DC residents.^{viii}

9) The United States House of Representatives passed the Washington, D.C. Admission Act on June 26, 2020^{ix} and again on April 22, 2021,^x Support for statehood for the people of D.C. has been gaining momentum during the last three Congresses and now has record numbers of cosponsors in both the House and the Senate.^{xi}

Resolved

1) ANC 3/4G joins Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton in calling for the passage of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act (H.R. 51 and S. 51).

2) ANC 3/4G advises the Council and the Mayor actively petition the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States to enact federal legislation granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C. in accordance with the Advisory Referendum approved by a majority of the voters of the District of Columbia on November 8, 2016.

3) ANC 3/4G opposes efforts by the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States that interfere with local self-government and Home Rule – including federal laws disapproving, amending, and repealing actions of the Council of the District of Columbia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia as well as federal budget riders that control and limit the use of locally-raised tax revenue.

4) ANC 3/4G requests that the Mayor and Council consider a funding increase to DC Vote, the New Columbia Statehood Commission, and all persons or offices associated with the effort to achieve statehood.

5) ANC 3/4G requests that Mayor Bowser and the Council convene a conference with leading statehood advocacy groups and citizens to generate strategies both in Washington D.C. and around the country to further the cause and eventual passage of DC statehood.

APPROVED at a regular public meeting, notice of which was properly given and at which a quorum of at least four () of seven () members were present on May 13, 2024 by a vote of () yes, () no, and () abstentions.

Lisa R Gore, Chair

Bruce Sherman, Secretary

ⁱ Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, "[Norton Introduces Resolution To Designate May 1, 2024, as "D.C. Statehood Day"](#)"

ⁱⁱ DC Fiscal Policy Institute, "[The High Cost of Denying Statehood to the District of Columbia](#)" ⁱⁱⁱ District of Columbia Board of Elections, "[General Election 2016 – Certified Results](#)," Advisory Referendum B District of Columbia, November 8th 2016.

^{iv} [The Constitution of the State of Washington, D.C.](#), 2016.

^v Government of the District of Columbia Office of Planning, "[Proposed State of Washington DC](#)," October 19, 2016.

^{vi} Council of the District of Columbia, [Advisory Referendum on the State of New Columbia Admission Act Resolution of 2016](#), July 12, 2016. \

^{vii} "Why Statehood for DC the District of Columbia." <https://statehood.dc.gov/page/why-statehood-dc>

^{viii} New Columbia Statehood Commission. <https://statehood.dc.gov/page/new-columbia-statehood-commission>

^{xi} U.S. Congress, House, [An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union](#) (Washington, D.C. Admission Act), H.R.51, 116th Cong., 2nd sess., Congressional Record Vol. 166, No. 118: H2521-H2557, H2557, June 26, 2020.

^x U.S. Congress, House, [An Act to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union](#) (Washington, D.C. Admission Act), H.R.51, 117th Cong., 1st sess., Congressional Record Vol.167, No. 70: H2061-H2089, H2089, April 22, 2021.

^{xi} "S.51 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Washington, D.C. Admission Act." Congress.gov, Library of Congress, 22 June 2021, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/51>.