WHEREAS, The people living on the land that would eventually be designated as the District of Columbia were provided the right to vote for representation in Congress when the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788; and

WHEREAS, The passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of the United States Congress and abolished residents' right to vote for members of Congress and the President and Vice President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia were granted the right to vote for the President and Vice President through passage of the Twenty-Third Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1961; and

WHEREAS, As of 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau data estimates that the District of Columbia's population at approximately 712,000 residents is comparable to the populations of Wyoming (582,000), Vermont (623,000), Alaska (731,000), and North Dakota (765,000); and

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia share all the responsibilities of United States citizenship, including

paying more federal taxes than residents of 22 states, serving
on federal juries, and defending the United States as members
of the United States armed forces in every war since the War
for Independence; yet, they are denied full representation in
Congress; and

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia
themselves have endorsed statehood for the District of
Columbia and passed a District-wide referendum on November 8,
2016 which favored statehood by 86%; and

WHEREAS, No other democratic nation denies the right of
self-government, including participation in its national
legislature, to the residents of its capital; and

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia lack
full democracy, equality, and citizenship enjoyed by the
residents of the 50 states; and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has interfered
repeatedly with the District of Columbia's limited
self-government by enacting laws that affect the District of
Columbia's expenditure of its locally-raised tax revenue; this
includes barring the usage of locally-raised revenue, thus
violating the fundamental principle that states and local
governments are best suited to enact legislation that
represents the will of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Although the District of Columbia has passed consecutive balanced budgets since FY 1997, it still faces the possibility of being shut down yearly because of Congressional deliberations over the federal budget; and

WHEREAS, In the 117th Congress, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton and Delaware U.S. Senator Tom Carper introduced H.R. 51 and S. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, that provides that the State of Washington, D.C. would have all the rights of citizenship as taxpaying American citizens, including two Senators and at least one House member; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Human Rights Committee has called on the United States Congress to address the District of Columbia's lack of political equality, and the Organization of American States has declared the disenfranchisement of the District of Columbia residents a violation of its charter agreement to which the United States is a signatory; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREBIN, that we urge the members of the
United States Congress to enact federal legislation granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C.; and be it further RESOLVED, That the State of Illinois supports admitting Washington, D.C. into the Union as a state of the United States of America.