

MAR 05 2021

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT FEDERAL  
LEGISLATION GRANTING STATEHOOD TO THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON,  
D.C.

1           WHEREAS, the people living on the land that would  
2 eventually be designated as the District of Columbia were  
3 provided the right to vote for representation in Congress when  
4 the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, the passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the  
7 District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of the United  
8 States Congress and abolished residents' right to vote for  
9 members of Congress and the President and Vice President of the  
10 United States; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, residents of the District of Columbia were granted  
13 the right to vote for the President and Vice President through  
14 passage of the Twenty-Third Amendment to the United States  
15 Constitution in 1961; and  
16

17           WHEREAS, as of 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau data estimates  
18 that the District of Columbia's population at approximately  
19 712,000 residents is comparable to the populations of Wyoming  
20 (582,000), Vermont (623,000), Alaska (731,000), and North Dakota  
21 (765,000); and  
22

23           WHEREAS, residents of the District of Columbia share all  
24 the responsibilities of United States citizenship, including  
25 paying more federal taxes than residents of twenty-two states,  
26 service on federal juries, and defending the United States as  
27 members of the United States armed forces in every war since the  
28 War for Independence, yet they are denied full representation in  
29 Congress; and  
30

31           WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia  
32 themselves have endorsed statehood for the District of Columbia



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1 and passed a District-wide referendum on November 8, 2016, which  
2 favored statehood by eighty-six percent; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, no other democratic nation denies the right of  
5 self-government, including participation in its national  
6 legislature, to the residents of its capital; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia lack  
9 full democracy, equality, and citizenship enjoyed by the  
10 residents of the fifty states; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, the United States Congress repeatedly has  
13 interfered with the District of Columbia's limited self-  
14 government by enacting laws that affect the District of  
15 Columbia's expenditure of its locally raised tax revenue,  
16 including barring the usage of locally raised revenue, thus  
17 violating the fundamental principle that states and local  
18 governments are best suited to enact legislation that represents  
19 the will of their citizens; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, although the District of Columbia has passed  
22 consecutive balanced budgets since the 1997 fiscal year, it  
23 still faces the possibility of being shut down yearly because of  
24 Congressional deliberations over the federal budget; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes  
27 Norton and Delaware U.S. Senator Tom Carper reintroduced in the  
28 117th Congress H.R. 51 and S. 51, respectively, the Washington,  
29 D.C. Admission Act, that provides that the State of Washington,  
30 D.C. would have all the rights of citizenship as taxpaying  
31 American citizens, including two Senators and at least one  
32 member of the House of Representatives; and  
33

34 WHEREAS, the United Nations Human Rights Committee has  
35 called on the United States Congress to address the District of  
36 Columbia's lack of political equality, and the Organization of  
37 American States has declared the disenfranchisement of the  
38 District of Columbia residents a violation of its charter  
39 agreement, to which the United States is a signatory; now,  
40 therefore,  
41



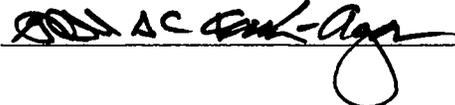
# S.C.R. NO. 62

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the  
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the members of the  
4 United States Congress are urged to enact federal legislation  
5 granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C.; and  
6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Hawaii supports  
8 admitting Washington, D.C. into the Union as a state of the  
9 United States of America; and  
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the four members of  
13 Hawaii's congressional delegation.  
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OFFERED BY:

  
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