

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Rep. Yaroch offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution to urge the United States Congress to
2 enact legislation returning the residential areas of the District
3 of Columbia back to the state of Maryland.

4 Whereas, The people living on the land that would eventually
5 be designated as the District of Columbia were provided the right
6 to vote for representation in Congress when the U.S. Constitution
7 was ratified in 1788; and

8 Whereas, The passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the
9 District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of Congress; and

10 Whereas, In 1847, the federal government returned the portion
11 of the District of Columbia that came from Virginia back to
12 Virginia; and

13 Whereas, Residents of the District of Columbia share all of
14 the responsibilities of citizenship, including paying federal

1 taxes, serving on federal juries, and defending the country as
2 members of the U.S. Armed Forces in every war since the
3 Revolutionary War, yet they are denied full representation in
4 Congress; and

5 Whereas, Congress has repeatedly interfered with the District
6 of Columbia's limited self-government by enacting laws that affect
7 its expenditure of locally-raised tax revenue. This interference
8 has included barring the use of local revenue, violating a
9 fundamental principle of democracy that states and local
10 governments are best suited to enact legislation that represents
11 the will of their citizens; and

12 Whereas, Although the District of Columbia has passed
13 consecutive balanced budgets since 1997, it still faces the
14 possibility of being shut down yearly because of congressional
15 deliberations over the federal budget; and

16 Whereas, No other democratic nation denies the right of self-
17 government, including full participation in its national
18 legislature, to the residents of its capital; now, therefore, be it

19 Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate
20 concurring), That we urge the United States Congress to enact
21 legislation returning the residential areas of the District of
22 Columbia back to the state of Maryland; and be it further

23 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
24 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
25 States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan
26 congressional delegation.