



June 9, 2021

**The Honorable Susan M. Collins**  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

**The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.**  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

**The Honorable Chellie Pingree**  
2162 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**The Honorable Jared Golden**  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Collins and King, and Representatives Pingree and Golden:

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, service 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 repeatedly has interfered 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, including 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 FY1997, it still faces the possibility of being shut down yearly because of Congressional deliberations over the federal budget; and

WHEREAS, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton and Delaware U.S. Senator Tom Carper introduced in the 117th Congress 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, we, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Maine, urge the members of the United States Congress to enact federal legislation granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C.; and

THEREFORE, we resolve that the State of Maine supports admitting Washington, D.C. into the Union as a state of the United States of America.

Signed,

**Kyle Bailey**  
**State Representative, District #27**

**Kristi Mathieson**  
**State Representative, District #1**

**Tiffany D Roberts**  
**State Representative, District #6**

**Christopher W. Babbidge**  
**State Representative, District #8**

**Traci Gere**  
**State Representative, District #9**

**Ryan Fecteau**  
**Speaker of the House, District #11**

**Erin Sheehan**  
**State Representative, District #12**

**Lynn H. Copeland**  
**State Representative, District #14**

**Maggie O'Neil**  
**State Representative, District #15**

**Maureen Terry**  
State Representative, District #26

**Sophia B. Warren**  
State Representative, District #29

**Rebecca Millett**  
State Representative, District #30

**Lois Galgay Reckitt**  
State Representative, District #31

**Morgan Rielly**  
State Representative, District #34

**Grayson Lookner**  
State Representative, District #37

**Barb Wood**  
State Representative, District #38

**Mike Sylvester**  
State Representative, District #39

**Rachel Talbot Ross**  
House Assistant Majority Leader, District #40

**Sam Zager**  
State Representative, District #41

**Benjamin T Collings**  
State Representative, District #42

**Arthur Bell**  
State Representative, District #47

**Melanie Sachs**  
State Representative, District #48

**Poppy Arford**  
State Representative, District #49

**Jay McCreight**  
State Representative, District #51

**Sean Paulhus**  
State Representative, District #52

**Denise Tepler**  
State Representative, District #54

**Seth Berry**  
State Representative, District #55

**Margaret M Craven**  
State Representative, District #59

**Heidi E. Brooks**  
State Representative, District #61

**Tavis Rock Hasenfus**  
State Representative, District #81

**Thom Harnett**  
State Representative, District #83

**Charlotte Warren**  
State Representative, District #84

**Donna Doore**  
State Representative, District #85

**Lydia Crafts**  
State Representative, District #90

**Jeffrey Evangelos**  
State Representative, District #91

**Ann Matlack**  
State Representative, District #92

**Valli Geiger**  
State Representative, District #93

**Victoria Doudera**  
State Representative, District #94

**Stanley Paige Zeigler**  
State Representative, District #96

**Jan Dodge**  
State Representative, District #97

**Scott Cuddy**  
State Representative, District #98

**Colleen Madigan**  
State Representative, District #110

**Richard A. Evans MD**  
State Representative, District #120

**Laurie Osher**  
State Representative, District #123

**Amy Roeder**  
State Representative, District #125

**Kevin O'Connell**  
State Representative, District #128

**Nicole Grohoski**  
State Representative, District #132

**Sarah Pebworth**  
State Representative, District #133

**Genevieve McDonald**  
State Representative, District #134

**Lynne Williams**  
State Representative, District #135

**Danny Martin**  
State Representative, District #150

**Troy Jackson**  
President of the Senate, District #1

**Joseph M Baldacci**  
State Senator, District #9

**Dave Miramant**  
State Senator, District #12

**Craig Hickman**  
State Senator, District #14

**Ned Claxton**  
State Senator, District #20

**Nate Libby**  
State Senator, District #21

**Ben Chipman**  
State Senator, District #27

**Heather Sanborn**  
State Senator, District #28

**Anne Carney**  
State Senator, District #29

**Stacy Brenner**  
State Senator, District #30

**Donna Bailey**  
State Senator, District #31