

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

5215H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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

5       **WHEREAS**, the passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the District of Columbia  
6 under the exclusive authority of the United States Congress and abolished residents' right to  
7 vote for members of Congress and the president and vice president of the United States; and

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

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13       **WHEREAS**, as of 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau data estimates that the District of  
14 Columbia's population at approximately 689,545 residents is comparable to the populations  
15 of Wyoming (576,851), Vermont (643,077), Alaska (733,391), and North Dakota (779,094);  
16 and

17  
18       **WHEREAS**, residents of the District of Columbia share all the responsibilities of  
19 United States citizenship, including paying more federal taxes than residents of 22 states,  
20 serving on federal juries, and defending the United States as members of the United States  
21 Armed Forces in every war since the War for Independence, yet they are denied full  
22 representation in Congress; and

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24       **WHEREAS**, the residents of the District of Columbia themselves have endorsed  
25 statehood for the District of Columbia and passed a District-wide referendum on November  
26 8, 2016, which favored statehood by 86%; and

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

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

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

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

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

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50           **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Human Rights Committee has called on the United  
51 States Congress to address the District of Columbia's lack of political equality, and the  
52 Organization of American States has declared the disenfranchisement of District of Columbia  
53 residents a violation of its charter agreement, to which the United States is a signatory:

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55           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
56 Representatives of the One Hundred Second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the  
57 Senate concurring therein, hereby express their support for admitting the District of Columbia  
58 to the Union and urge the members of the United States Congress to enact federal legislation  
59 granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C.; and

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61           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
62 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the  
63 President of the United States of America, the Vice President of the United States of America,

64 the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United  
65 States Senate, and the members of the Missouri congressional delegation.

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