

June 25, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi 235 Cannon House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy 2421 Rayburn House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Cc: All Members of the House of Representatives

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy and all Members of the House:

From the moment the District of Columbia Organic Act became law in 1801, Washingtonians have been denied full participation in their own government. For more than 200 years, the original form of voter suppression has blocked equal access to, and participation in, the representative structures that are the basis of the American ideal.

When white women were finally granted the right to vote in 1920, women in Washington, DC were left behind. When the 15th Amendment to the Constitution sought to enfranchise those who racism kept from participation, people of color in Washington were left behind. When limited home-rule passed in 1973, Congress recognized that injustice existed, but kept power over DC's local budget and laws.

Across America today, people are working to dismantle racist constructs and systems. With a majority Black and brown population, the fight for DC Statehood cannot be separated from the fight for racial justice.

The Congress has the opportunity to make the 706,000 residents of Washington, DC full members of the American story by passing H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admissions Act.



We, the undersigned organizations, stand firmly in support of DC Statehood and urge the Congress to vote in favor of H.R. 51 and reject any Motion to Recommit.

Sincerely,

DC Vote 51 for 51

A Little Piece Of Light AFGE Local 3354

African American Ministers In Action

Alabama State Association of

Cooperatives

Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

Alliance for Justice American Ethical Union American Family Voices

American Federation of State, County and

Municipal Employees

American Federation of Teachers
American Friends Service Committee

American Postal Workers Union Anacostia Coordinating Council Bend the Arc Jewish Action

Black Farmers and Ranchers New Mexico Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School

of Law

Brookland Huddle-for-the-Future

Brookland Neighborhood Civic Association

BYP100 DC

Campaign for Youth Justice
Center for American Progress
Center for Disability Rights
Center for Environmental Health
Center for Popular Democracy
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT

Centers

Clean Elections Texas Clean Water Action

Coalition of Labor Union Women Coalition on Human Needs Coalition to Stop Gun Violence

Common Cause

Communications Workers of America

Cottage House Inc.,

D.C. Statehood - Yes We Can!

DC Appleseed

DC Democratic State Committee

DC Environmental Network
DC League of Women Voters
DC Statehood Coalition

DC Statenood Coalition
DC Ward 2 Democrats

Death with Dignity National Center Declaration for American Democracy

Defending Rights & Dissent

Demand Progress DemCast USA Democracy 21

Democracy for America Democracy Initiative

DEMOS

Disability Rights Education & Defense

Fund (DREDF)

Endangered Species Coalition

Faith Strategies

Farmworker Association of Florida

Food & Friends
Food & Water Watch

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Futures Without Violence

Green Compass Greenpeace USA Herd on the Hill Hip Hop Caucus

Human Rights Campaign

Indivisible

Indivisible Beach Cities

Indivisible Media City Burbank

IndivisibleSF

Jews United for Justice



Justice Policy Institute

Lambda Legal

The Leadership Conference on Civil and

Human Rights

League of Conservation Voters

League of Women Voters of the United

States

Let America Vote/End Citizens United

Action Fund

March For Our Lives

Metro DC PFLAG

Mississippi Association of Cooperatives

NAACP

NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND

EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC. (LDF)

National CAPACD

National Coalition for the Homeless

National Community Reinvestment

Coalition (NCRC)

National Council of Jewish Women

National Employment Law Project

NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING ALLIANCE

National Federation of Democratic Women

National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund

National Partnership for Women &

Families

NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

Neighbors United for DC Statehood

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social

Justice

New Progressive Alliance

NOPE Neighbors

Our Maryland

Our Revolution DC

People For the American Way

PFLAG National

Physicians for Reproductive Health

Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan

Washington, DC

Pride at Work

Public Citizen

Public Justice Center

Rachel Carson Council

Rural Advancement Fund of the National

Sharecroppers Fund

Rural Coalition

Santa Cruz Indivisible

SEIU 32BJ

Senior Citizens Matter

Service Employees International Union

Sierra Club

SPLC Action Fund

Stand Up America

Stand Up! for Democracy in DC (Free DC)

Students for D.C. Statehood

The Fund for Community Reparations for

Autistic People of Color's

Interdependence, Survival, and

Empowerment

The George Washington University College

Democrats

The United Methodist Church - General

Board of Church and Society

UFCW Local 400

URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender

Equity

Voices for Progress

VoteVets

Ward 3 Democrats

Ward 5 Democrats

Ward 8 Democrats

Washington Ethical Society

Washington Teachers' Union

Workplace Fairness