

D.C. STATEHOOD RESOLUTION

Whereas, the District of Columbia is the only political and geographical entity within the United States of America whose citizens bear the responsibilities of citizenship, including taxation and Selective Service registration, without sharing in the full rights and privileges of citizenship; and

Whereas, over 192,000 citizens of the District have fought in our armed forces in service to our nation in every war and foreign conflict; and

Whereas, in Fiscal Year 2012, District residents and businesses paid \$20.7 billion in federal taxes; more than the taxes collected from 19 states and the highest federal taxes per capita; and

Whereas, the District balanced its budget every year since Fiscal Year 1997; and

Whereas, the Congress has recklessly fomented repeated fiscal crises, and a federal government shutdown would force the government of the District to close despite having a balanced budget; and

Whereas, the Congress and the President have restricted the District from spending local tax dollars as our Council and Mayor have directed; and

Whereas, the District government receives less federal funds as a percentage of its budget than Mississippi, Louisiana, New Mexico, and North Dakota; and is on par with Alabama, Montana, Vermont, and West Virginia; and eight states receive as much or more aid than the District; and

Whereas, the continuous intrusions of the United States Congress into the local municipal affairs of the District are affronts to a republican and federal form of government that occur nowhere else in the country; and

Whereas, the Congress has final approval on all District laws, unlike any other jurisdiction in the country; and

Whereas, District residents are subject to all of the laws of the United States, as well as treaties made with foreign governments, without ever having consented through Congressional representation to such laws; and

Whereas, the District has a population of more than 632,000 people, which is a larger population than Wyoming and Vermont; and

Whereas, the District has a larger population than most states when they joined the United States, which needed only 60,000 people under the Enabling Act of 1802; and

Whereas, the Congress has bartered our freedoms and constrained our liberty through numerous appropriations bills, riders, and like instruments; and

Whereas, the Congress can repeal the Home Rule Act of 1973 and our limited self-governance, but cannot redefine or repeal Statehood; and

Whereas, in the only public referendum on the issue, the majority of District residents voted overwhelmingly in 1980 in favor of Statehood; and

Whereas, Statehood is the only way to guarantee the citizens of the District our irrevocable and inalienable right to full citizenship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Brookland Neighborhood Civic Association demands Statehood for the residential and commercial portions of the District of Columbia, in order that our second-class citizen status be permanently abolished.

Approved at a regularly scheduled meeting on May 18, 2013.

Tom Bridge

President, Brookland Neighborhood Civic Association