



May 20, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
Russell Senate Office Building, 317
Washington, DC 20510

Minority Leader Charles Schumer
Hart Senate Office Building, 322
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi
Cannon House Office Building, 235
Washington, DC 20515

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
Cannon House Office Building, 326
Washington, DC 20515

The Brookland Neighborhood Civic Association, representing residents of the Brookland neighborhood of Washington, DC, by unanimous vote on May 19, 2020, passed the following resolution:

We, residents of the District of Columbia and taxpaying U.S. citizens, demand that the federal government provide full funding to the District of Columbia to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic. DC should be treated, as it has been historically treated in federal legislation, as if it were a state, until Statehood for DC is finally realized.

In order to rectify the injustice of DC's treatment in the CARES Act, the U.S. Senate must pass, and the President must sign into law, the provisions of the HEROES Act recently passed by the U.S. House, which would provide appropriate treatment for DC for funding purposes in the current, health-emergency legislation and in all legislation going forward. We regard this as a merely an interim, but necessary, measure, until Statehood for DC is finally realized and the continuing injustice of taxation without representation in DC is finally brought to an end.

We join in the sentiments expressed by many others in the DCVote letter of April 14, 2020:

The tyranny of taxation without representation laid upon the people of the colonies by the British Crown was the fuel that sparked the American Revolution. More than

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two hundred years have passed since the United States declared our independence from that oppression. Yet, for the more than seven hundred thousand people who call Washington, D.C., home, this unjust system remains.

The CARES Act, recently passed and signed into law, has brought that injustice into stark relief. The people of D.C. pay all the taxes everyone does, and the federal government treats D.C. as a state in hundreds of ways. However, the CARES Act includes D.C. with the territories, which shortchanges the tax-paying residents of Washington, DC out of \$725 million of needed aid to fight the coronavirus.

D.C. is not a territory. D.C. bears all the responsibilities of citizenship and deserves the benefits. This is not a time for opponents of D.C.'s efforts to secure Statehood to make a political statement. Washington, D.C., like every state in the nation, is dealing with unprecedented challenges and, like every state, needs the full support and resources of the federal government to ensure the safety and well-being of D.C.'s residents.

We demand that in the next coronavirus relief bill Washington, D.C., be made whole and receive the discretionary funding that was awarded to each state in the CARES Act. Further, we demand that in all future legislation providing economic relief and financial support to states and other jurisdictions, Washington, D.C. be treated as a State, as it and its residents, tax-paying citizens of the United States of America all, deserve and by rights require.

On behalf of the Members of the BNCA,

Dan Schramm, President
Kathy Jacquart, Vice President
Terence Hardy, Treasurer
Elise Scott, Communications Director
Rene McCray, Membership Coordinator
Helen LaCroix, Recording Secretary
Fred Jackson, At-large Member

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