



Dear Congressman,

On behalf of Campaign Legal Center (CLC), I am writing today to urge you to support H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admissions Act. For 219 years, residents of the District of Columbia have lived in the United States as American citizens without equal representation or equal self-government. The residents have served in the military, paid more in federal taxes than 22 states, and more federal taxes per capita than any state. Yet, they have no voice in Congress to make crucial decisions for the District and for the country as a whole.

More than 706,000 residents, a population greater than Vermont and Wyoming and comparable to the size of three other states, lack equal access to, and participation in, the representative structures that are the basis of this country. They have no voice. Passage of the Washington, D.C. Admissions Act would finally entitle D.C. residents to the same rights the rest of the country has, including one voting member of the U.S. House of Representatives, two U.S. Senators, and the ability to form a full state government.

It is time to provide the District with a meaningful say in government and public policy based on the race, political affiliation and, socioeconomic status of its citizens. It is time for Congress to act and give the residents of the District the same rights and essential voice in government as the rest of America. It is time to allow the residents of the District to make their own governing decisions. It is time to reverse hundreds of years of disenfranchisement and give the hundreds of thousands of residents the right to vote and speak their minds, and full representation.

CLC urges you to support D.C. statehood, vote in favor of H.R. 51, and reject any Motion to Recommit.

Sincerely,

Trevor Potter
President, Campaign Legal Center