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2 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

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4 Janeese Lewis George

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8 Charles Allen

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11 Robert White

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14 Anita Bonds

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17 Matthew Frumin

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20 Zachary Parker

21 Councilmember Zachary Parker

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23 Vincent Gray

24 Councilmember Vincent Gray

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26 Christina Henderson

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30 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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33 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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35 To officially declare May 1st, 2024, as D.C. Statehood Day in the District of Columbia.

36
37 WHEREAS, the District of Columbia's over 700,000 citizens pay more in federal income taxes
38 per capita than any other state and more in total federal income taxes than 22 states;

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40 WHEREAS, the dollar amount of federal taxes paid by the residents of the District of Columbia
41 currently stands at \$1,402,519,271;

42
43 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution as ratified in 1788 provided the right to vote for
44 representation in Congress to the "People of the several States" of the United States, which included
45 citizens living on the land that would later be designated by the federal government for the nation's
46 capital as ceded by Maryland and Virginia to become the District of Columbia;

47
48 WHEREAS, despite the provision of the right of vote in the Constitution, through the enactment
49 of the "District of Columbia Organic Act of 1801", D.C. residents were disenfranchised from voting for
representative Members of Congress more than 200 years ago;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has more residents than the States of Vermont and
Wyoming, and almost as many as North Dakota;

50 WHEREAS, the citizens of the District of Columbia continue to express their determination to
51 achieve full representation by electing two United States Senators and a United States Representative to
52 advocate for statehood and full democracy;

53
54 WHEREAS, citizens of the District of Columbia bear all of the responsibilities of citizenship,
55 including fighting in wars and serving in the military, paying federal income taxes, and serving on federal
56 juries;

57
58 WHEREAS, no other democratic nation denies basic rights of self-government, including
59 participation in the national legislature, to residents of its capital;

60
61 WHEREAS, the United Nations Human Rights Committee has released statements expressing
62 concern over this denial of representation to citizens in D.C.;

63
64 WHEREAS, the Organization of American States (OAS), to which the United States is a
65 signatory, has described the disenfranchisement of D.C. residents as a violation of its charter agreement;

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67 WHEREAS, Congress often interferes in legislation passed by D.C.'s locally elected officials by
68 enacting spending restrictions on D.C. revenue, violating the fundamental principle that states and local
69 governments are best-suited to follow the will of their citizens;

70
71 WHEREAS, in spite of nearly three decades of balanced budgets, D.C. faces the possibility each
72 year of being shut down because of congressional interference, threatening both D.C. and national
73 security;

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75 WHEREAS, it has been more than 50 years since the passage of the Civil Rights Act, and more
76 than 40 years since the District of Columbia was granted home rule, and the residents of the District of
77 Columbia have yet to have the same rights as the residents of the 50 states.

78
79 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution
80 may be cited as the "D.C. Statehood Day Recognition Resolution of 2024."

81
82 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia hereby declares May 1st, 2024 to be D.C.
83 Statehood Day and encourages leaders and residents to discuss statehood for the District of Columbia in
84 high-profile settings in an effort to educate Americans regarding the lack of congressional voting
85 representation and budget autonomy for the residents of the District.

86
87 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the
88 District of Columbia Register.