

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

H. C. R. No. 47

Representative Ingram

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the Congress of the United States to grant 1
statehood to Washington, D.C. 2

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The people living on the land that would 3
eventually be designated as the District of Columbia were 4
provided the right to vote for representation in Congress when 5
the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788; and 6

WHEREAS, The passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the 7
District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of the 8
Congress of the United States and abolished the residents' right 9
to vote for members of Congress and the President and Vice 10
President of the United States; and 11

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia were granted 12
the right to vote for the President and Vice President through 13
passage of the Twenty-Third Amendment to the United States 14
Constitution in 1961; and 15

WHEREAS, As of 2021, the United States Census Bureau 16
estimates that the District of Columbia's population at 17
approximately 689,545 residents is comparable to the populations 18
of Wyoming (576,851), Vermont (643,077), Alaska (733,391), and 19
North Dakota (779,094); and 20

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia share all 21
the responsibilities of United States citizenship, including 22
paying more federal taxes than residents of 22 states, service 23
on federal juries, and defending the United States as members of 24
the United States armed forces in every war since the War for 25
Independence, yet they are denied full representation in 26
Congress; and 27

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia 28
themselves have endorsed statehood for the District of Columbia 29
and, on November 8, 2016, passed a District-wide referendum 30
favoring statehood by 86%; and 31

WHEREAS, No other democratic nation denies the right of 32
self-government, including participation in its national 33
legislature, to the residents of its capital; and 34

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia, without 35
voting representation in Congress, live under a system that is 36
not fully democratic, and therefore are not equal in political 37
power to residents of the 50 states; and 38

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has repeatedly 39
interfered with the District of Columbia's limited self- 40
government by enacting laws that affect the District of 41
Columbia's expenditure of its locally raised tax revenue, 42
including barring the usage of locally raised revenue, thus 43
violating the fundamental principle that states and local 44
governments are best suited to enact legislation that represents 45
the will of their citizens; and 46

WHEREAS, Although the District of Columbia has passed 47
consecutive balanced budgets since FY 1997, it still faces the 48
possibility of being shut down yearly because of Congressional 49
deliberations over the federal budget; and 50

WHEREAS, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes 51

Norton and Delaware United States Senator Tom Carper introduced 52
in the 117th Congress H.R. 51 and S. 51, the Washington, D.C. 53
Admission Act, that provides that the State of Washington, D.C. 54
would have all the rights of citizenship as taxpaying American 55
citizens, including two Senators and at least one House member; 56
and 57

WHEREAS, The United Nations Human Rights Committee has 58
called on the Congress of the United States to address the 59
District of Columbia's lack of political equality, and the 60
Organization of American States has declared the 61
disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents a violation 62
of its charter agreement, to which the United States is a 63
signatory; now therefore be it 64

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General 65
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the United 66
States to enact federal legislation granting statehood to the 67
people of Washington, D.C.; and be it further 68

RESOLVED, That we support the admission of Washington, D.C. 69
into the Union as a state of the United States of America; and 70
be it further 71

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 72
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 73
President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, to the 74
Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each 75
member of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and to the news 76
media of Ohio. 77