

Summary Public Comments Received on New Columbia Draft Constitution
New Columbia Statehood Commission

Number	Provision	Comments
General		
1	General	The State name should be changed.
2	General	The State name should be kept, because the bill in Congress uses this name.
3	General	There is not enough time to deliberate this, as the timeline is short.
4	General	The 1982 or 1987 constitutions already exist.
5	General	There are too many colonial provisions and too many provisions of the Home Rule Act.
6	General	What sort of resources are available to make public aware?
7	General	If we want democracy, we have to give democracy.
8	General	How will the State take over the National Guard?
9	General	Thanks for giving us something to work for.
10	General	Regarding partisan elections throughout, does a candidate need to win a party primary to get on the ballot?
11	General	US Citizenship should be required for all positions specified in the 1987 constitution, including the House of Delegates, Governor, CFO, Public Service Commissioners, and Zoning Commissioner.
12	General	Replace gendered pronouns throughout the document.
13	General	Will the ballot in November be one question or four?
14	General	This is not a legitimate constitutional convention to design the constitution.
15	General	Publicize the rules of how the days of the constitutional convention will operate.
16	General	A second draft of the constitution should be released.
17	General	This constitution will go down in history.
18	General	We should work collaboratively on community outreach.
19	General	We have met the three requirements for statehood by having sufficient land, population, and revenue.
20	General	Will the power come from the people?
21	General	We should have a republican form of government.
22	General	We should establish the borders and have the land from Virginia returned.
23	General	The Attorney General should have been made the head of the Legal Advisory Committee.
24	General	The constitution should include a human rights charter.
25	General	We should call Wards counties.
26	General	Pay caps should not be in a constitution, as it limits flexibility.
27	General	We should not let this opportunity pass us by, even if people have problems with the process or individual aspects of the constitution.
28	General	Elections should be publically financed.
29	General	There should be provisions for independent agencies.
30	General	We could just write a new constitution after the elections.
31	General	DC is a federal territory and vassal to the US Congress. The DC government is hoarding federal funds that it is using to fund their fraudulent and seceding acts against the United States and US Congress.

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32	General	How will Kendall School and Model Secondary School for the deaf be funded?
33	General	It would be helpful to explain the rationale behind the decisions made.
34	General	A general ethics provision should be added.
35	General	Planning for statehood should be handled by an elected Commission with 7 Commissioners who serve 4 year terms.
36	General	The Statehood movement has excluded Republican voices, which should be included.
37	General	You should contact the drafters of Mexico City's constitution.
38	General	Rights of the minority should not be able to be overturned by the majority.
39	General	There should be no private prisons or halfway houses and a prohibition on private profit from prisoners.
40	General	A state bank should be created to control resources.
41	General	Establish the voting age.
42	General	The Constitution is too long.
43	General	DC residents should have the same constitutional right to representation as other US citizens.
44	General	The constitution in general is too specific and should leave more details to legislation, regulation, and operational policy.
45	General	There should be no references to the Home Rule Act in the Constitution.
46	General	The constitution should affirm the government's authority and obligation to protect the environment and citizen's health and wellbeing.
47	General	I agree with the approach of a clear and simple constitution that may provide us the rights we need without jeopardizing our approach.
48	General	"First past the post" voting should be eliminated in favor of alternate vote systems.
49	General	We should reach out to young people.
50	General	The Washington Post should take this on to educate people.
51	General	Comments should be posted online.
52	General	We should pay and fund the statehood delegation.
53	General	This is a civil rights issue, and people should know that.
54	General	We need new people in the statehood fight.
55	General	We should establish protections from special interests so they do not overwhelm this process as they did with the 1982 Constitution.
56	General	As a delegate to the 1982 Constitutional Convention, it was a highly undemocratic process.
57	General	Even if we do not have a perfect state, we deserve the rights it brings.
58	General	Lack of statehood is big government interference.
59	General	We should rename office of District government now to call the Mayor Governor and the Chairman Speaker.
60	General	There should be more detail so that each Ward feels included.
61	General	We cannot sacrifice local government for statehood.
62	General	Fairness is important, particularly in education.

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63	General	"Taxation without representation" should be the official song of statehood.
64	General	We should put 3/5 of our taxes in an escrow account until we have representation.
65	General	We should get veterans and churches involved.
66	General	The Statehood delegation should be made employees of DC government so that other employees can donate their leave to them.
67	General	We shouldn't limit our ability to grow when creating the boundaries.
68	General	There should be a right to open data and information, particularly with regard to contracting.
69	General	Congress treats DC as a colony.
70	General	Disenfranchisement of DC residents violates the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which the US is a signatory.
71	General	We need representatives in Congress to support the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
72	General	People need to realize that Washington, DC is more than just the Congress and White House.
73	General	We need a huge positive vote for statehood.
74	General	It is important for people to contact their friends and families with representation to support statehood.
75	General	We should not say that we'll make changes later.
76	General	It is important to draft the constitution quickly and precisely.
77	General	Our rights, including LGBT rights, should not be subject to the whims of Congress.
78	General	Our tax dollars should be spent by our locally elected leaders.
79	General	People in other states should not have more of a say over DC and DC taxes than we do.
80	General	The Boundaries are well-drawn. It demonstrates that Washington, DC is more than Congress and the White House.
81	General	Taking away voting rights is silencing society.
82	General	It is important to build on the previous foundation of statehood efforts.
83	General	The constitution is a competent statement of best practices of the 50 states.
84	General	The boundaries should include Trump Hotel.
85	General	We need to tell the world we oppose bigotry and racism.
86	General	We need national attention around this issue.
87	General	This process is undemocratic, and we should just use the 1982 Constitution.
88	General	With this process, every citizen can provide input.
89	General	Washington, DC is the best city in America.
90	General	Kids support DC Statehood, too.
91	General	Lawyers, academics, and politicians should not write the constitution.
92	General	There should be a different system for commenting and discussion, like a wiki page.
93	General	There should be a right to open budgeting.
94	General	We should discuss abolishing the state income tax and fair taxation.
95	General	While a radical constitution may be ideal, statehood should be the main goal.

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96	General	Emancipation Day should focus on statehood in the future.
97	General	Even with a conservative constitution, we will still be a progressive city.
98	General	We should engage universities and recruit more millenials.
99	General	Millenials are watching the process and providing input.
100	General	We should have municipalities instead of Wards.
101	General	We should not create a constitution and push for statehood at the same time.
102	General	It is important to have a constitution we all want.
103	General	We should give contracting preference to contractors that donate to statehood efforts.
104	General	We should ask all groups, from sports teams to embassy delegations, to support statehood.
105	General	Statehood is a libertarian cause and should have support from that community.
106	General	Voters should be registered automatically when applying for a license or identification card.
107	General	Undocumented immigrants should not be eligible to vote.
108	General	Registered voters who don't vote should be fined based on their income.
109	General	State-owned property should not be sold without a referendum.
110	General	State funds should not fund religious or private schools.
111	General	Residents who must be out at night for their job should be allowed a permit to carry a gun.
112	General	It is absurd that DC must wait on Congress to spend its own money, and it costs us money.
113	General	The draft is overly concerned with an easy transition from Home Rule to statehood.
114	General	The most important thing when advocating on Capitol Hill for statehood is showing support, so the referendum should only ask that question.
115	General	The constitution should not include changes made to District government in recent years and should not simplify previous constitutions.
116	General	We should oppose the imposition of charter schools, the SOAR Act, and mayoral control of education.
117	General	We should delay this process until there can be a lengthier process to draft the constitution.
118	General	The chances of statehood are zero, because it will add two more senators. One hundred is a beautiful number.
119	General	DC should just become part of Maryland.
120	General	Commenting should not have been limited to uploading files and should have been smart-phone friendly.
121	General	We should have a vote that calls on Congress to pass a constitutional amendment that repeals the 23rd amendment.
122	General	We should be able to choose the new state name democratically.
123	General	Wards 7 and 8 will be treated worse under statehood. There should be more benefits and services, like road repair and traffic reduction, affordable housing, emergency room access, economic development, and better government treatment. Explain how Statehood will benefit Wards 7 and 8.
124	General	Marijuana legalization sends the wrong message and is profiting companies. It should end.
125	General	There is too much of a focus on online outreach.
126	General	Public safety should be an explicitly stated goal of the government.

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127	General	There should be a constitutional primer to educate people about provisions of other state constitutions.
128	General	The constitution should be specific about police powers.
129	General	We should adopt a basic constitution to maximize the chance for passage.
130	General	This is a terrific effort that is building on the efforts from the 80s.
131	General	Congress should be more concerned with their own districts and not the affairs of Washington, DC.
132	General	Students should be involved in this process.
133	General	As a Republican, we should support equality and not delineate based on geographic location.
134	General	The lawyers seem to be doing an excellent job.
135	General	We should broaden the base of public participation to include all DC residents.
136	General	We need to talk to our relatives and friends with representation.
137	General	We need to let Congress know we're ready for statehood.
138	General	We must get this on the new President's desk for a signature in January.
139	General	We're the only jurisdiction with that pays federal and local tax but has no local control or input.
140	General	We should have given notice to other cities, states, and governments.
141	General	All Wards should have been involved in the process.
142	General	There should be a 'no' vote in November until the process is different.
143	General	Statehood will give people a sense of agency.
144	General	We need to pay attention to the future steps in the process.
145	General	We need representation for veterans.
146	General	We need a financial analysis of budgetary demands and costs of statehood, including potential expansions of the legislature.
147	General	There should be an office like the Congressional Budget Office to have an expanded role in budget development and spending oversight.
148	General	DC should have a member of the House but not two Senators.
149	General	We should amend the Home Rule Charter to provide for 25 members of the Council.
150	General	The November referendum should ask whether DC residents should be exempted from federal income tax until statehood.
Preamble		
151	All	The Preamble should refer to a "representative form of government" instead of a "republican form of government."
Bill of Rights		
152	2nd	We shouldn't include the Second Amendment in our constitution.
153	2nd	The phrase "well-regulated militia" should eliminate ambiguities that might threaten reasonable gun laws.
154	3rd	We shouldn't include the Third Amendment in our constitution.
155	6th	This provision should be limited to felonies.

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156	7th	The amount for a case in controversy is too low. This provision should be changed or set a value in controversy higher than \$20 so that a small claims court could continue to exist.
157	7th	The end of Section VII should refer to "New Columbia law" rather than the rules of the common law.
158	10th	Strike "within its jurisdiction" from the text of the provision.
159	All	We should develop a separate Bill of Rights.
160	All	Include a right to privacy, similar to the California Constitution.
161	All	Include a right to education.
162	All	Include the following rights: freedom of assembly and expression; freedom of religion and separation of church and state; freedom from discrimination; right to privacy.
163	All	Expand equal protection and include that corporations aren't people.
164	All	There should be a prohibition of all forms of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment.
165	All	The right to vote should be enshrined, including provisions to prohibit voter ID laws and to permit formerly incarcerated people to vote and establishing eligibility.
166	All	Should we have longer list of rights, similar to the 1982 constitution?
167	All	By incorporating the federal Bill of Rights, we will be beholden to federal interpretations of those provisions.
168	All	We could have a provision saying our courts can interpret law differently than the federal bill of rights.
169	All	Should we retain a bill of rights? What benefit will result?
170	All	There should be protections against unreasonable searches and wiretapping and for abortion rights.
171	All	There should be a section on due process rights.
172	All	There should be a right to drug use.
173	All	We should have an Equal Rights Amendment and bar discrimination on sex, gender, LGBTQ status, and disability.
174	All	The right to counsel should be guaranteed for criminal, civil, and administrative cases.
175	All	The Bill of Rights should be integrated into the document, not included as a separate list.
176	All	Include enhanced criminal procedure protections and a right against extractive bail and unreasonable sentences.
177	All	There should be gun regulations, including background checks and limits of high capacity magazines.
178	All	There should be a provision prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, age, class, or sexual orientation.
179	All	There should be a right to life.
180	All	We should not have a Bill of Rights.
181	All	Returning citizens who served their time in prison should not be denied the right to vote.
182	All	There should be a prohibition on the death penalty.
183	All	We should reaffirm the 14th amendment.
Article I		
184	All	We should include mandatory staggered terms for members of the House of Delegates.
185	All	The House of Delegates should be able to consent to confirm agency heads.

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186	All	We should not use the phrase "By Act" to clarify that actions by the House of Delegates require the Governor's signature or veto override.
187	All	We should clarify that the reservation of seats for the non-majority party has been removed.
188	All	Incorporate a legislative speech-and-debate clause into the constitution.
189	All	The length of legislative session should be constitutionalized, between 90 and 120 days.
190	All	Some legislative power should be reserved for the people in an initiative system.
191	All	There should be an independent redistricting commission and ethics commission.
192	All	There should be a minimum amount of expenditures by an officer or employee of the State that does not need approval by the House of Delegates.
193	All	There should be a code of conduct for Delegates.
194	Sec. 1	The House of Delegates should be authorized to create local government units.
195	Sec. 1	The phrase "consistent with the Constitution of the United States" should be deleted, as it unnecessary. All laws must be consistent with the US Constitution.
196	Sec. 2	The number of Delegates is too small. Suggestions on size vary.
197	Sec. 2	Tie the number of delegates to the number of constituents represented.
198	Sec. 2	Clarify whether Speaker is elected in Presidential election years and if they are staggered with Governor.
199	Sec. 2	Each delegate should represent 20-25,000 people, rather than establishing a number in the constitution.
200	Sec. 2	There should be a mandate to always have an odd number of delegates
201	Sec. 2	There should be as many At Large members as there are districts.
202	Sec. 2	Delegates should elect the speaker of the House.
203	Sec. 2	The legislature should be bicameral.
204	Sec. 2	More members in the legislature will cost more money.
205	Sec. 2	The Council and the ANCs should become two chambers.
206	Sec. 2	The Legislature should be larger but not too large.
207	Sec. 2	There should be 2 representatives per Ward.
208	Sec. 2	At Large members should be elected using proportional or semi-proportional voting.
209	Sec. 2	The House of Delegates should be small.
210	Sec. 2	More Delegates does not necessarily mean more democracy. People in DC participate in government in myriad ways already, and the Wilson building is accessible within an hour for every resident.
211	Sec. 2	Though other state legislatures are larger, many are in session for just part of the year, until April or June. Texas meets only every other year.
212	Sec. 2	A unicameral legislature is more responsive and guards minority rights. A bicameral or larger legislature might make the legislature less responsive to citizen needs.
213	Sec. 2	The entire House should be elected on proportional representation.
214	Sec. 2	There should be a signature requirement to get on the ballot for Delegate.

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215	Sec. 2	After the 2020 census, the state should be divided into 10 legislative districts and new members can be elected thereafter.
216	Sec. 2	There should be two chambers: an upper house based on proportional representation and a lower house based on geographical representation.
217	Sec. 2	Representation does not have to be limited to geography.
218	Sec. 2	Delegates should be elected by ranked choice/runoff voting in general or in primaries and the top two candidates in the general election.
219	Sec. 2	There should be a requirement for open primaries.
220	Sec. 2	Primaries should be abolished entirely in favor of instant runoff general elections.
221	Sec. 2	All Delegates should be elected in one cycle and the Governor, Speaker, Attorney General and non-Delegate positions should be elected on the other.
222	Sec. 2	References to "on a partisan basis" should not refer to the requirement of non-majority legislators.
223	Sec. 2	The minority-party reserved seats should not be eliminated.
224	Sec. 2 & 4	It is not necessary to have various sections regarding the House of Delegate's powers, particularly regarding internal rules.
225	Sec. 2a	Councilmembers should be elected on a nonpartisan basis.
226	Sec. 2a	There should be no at large delegates.
227	Sec. 2a3	This section implies that each district will elect 8 representatives, for a total of 64.
228	Sec. 2b	There is no specification about when elections shall happen, but it does establish when new officials take office.
229	Sec. 2d	The phrase "action that amounts to a gross failure to meet the highest standards of personal and professional conduct" may be too vague and should be clarified.
230	Sec. 2d	A 5/6 majority for removal is too high, as it is functionally 11 of 12 members (as one will be the accused). The US Constitution only requires 2/3 vote.
231	Sec. 2d	Removal by recall or felony conviction should be the only way to remove a Delegate.
232	Sec. 2d	What does substantial mean?
233	Sec. 2e	There should be interim appointment or other provisions for vacancies in the House.
234	Sec. 2e	There is too much detail, suitable for legislation, for vacancies in the House.
235	Sec. 2e	Vacancy provisions for the Governor, Attorney General, at-large members, and district members should be the same.
236	Sec. 2e	Vacancies should be fixed with clear lines of succession and alternates rather than special elections and party committees.
237	Sec. 2e	Vacancies should be fixed by a special election within 60 days rather than by the party committees.
238	Sec. 2e	A vacancy for the Speaker should be filled by the legislature and not a party committee.
239	Sec. 2e	The Governor should temporarily appoint someone to a vacated at large seat until the next election.
240	Sec. 2e	There should be no special elections because they are too costly.
241	Sec. 2e1	The word "District" should not be capitalized in the first sentence.

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242	Sec. 2e2	References to a party's "central committee" is presumptive, and they should not pick successors.
243	Sec. 2e2	Central committee should be defined.
244	Sec. 3	We should use only domicile, not residence.
245	Sec. 3	Why are there exceptions for political convention delegates?
246	Sec. 3	Is it okay to be in the military reserves but not to be called up for 30 days?
247	Sec. 3	What happens regarding employment for a temporary speaker?
248	Sec. 3	The Delegates should have a term limit, with suggestions ranging from 2 to 10 terms.
249	Sec. 3	Only citizens, and not any organization, should be allowed to donate to campaigns with a \$1,500 limit, and violators should be subject to a felony charge.
250	Sec. 3	Delegates removed due to a felony conviction should not be eligible to run for any office again.
251	Sec. 3a	There should be a specified minimum age for Delegate, like 18.
252	Sec. 3a3	Delegates should have a longer residency requirement, with the lowest suggestion at 2 years.
253	Sec. 3a3	The residency requirements may not be fair and may prevent some people from serving. Perhaps they could say "lived in the state for at least a year of accumulated time in the last 10 years or 5 years" to accommodate people whose job takes them out of state frequently.
254	Sec. 3a3	Residency requirements should be before the primary or earlier.
255	Sec. 3a4	It is not fair to ban outside government jobs but allow other outside work.
256	Sec. 3a4	This should not be a part time job, but only the Speaker has total restrictions on outside income. All Delegates should have a ban on outside employment.
257	Sec. 3a4	Delegate salary should be raised and paired with a ban on outside employment.
258	Sec. 3a4	Non-speaker Delegates should be allowed outside employment but have to specify their employment and recuse themselves when business relates to it.
259	Sec. 3a4	What do the qualifications actually mean?
260	Sec. 3a4	If the House is only 13 members, there should be no outside employment allowed.
261	Sec. 3a4	The text should say "holds no other public office" instead of "holds no office."
262	Sec. 3a4	The language should be changed so that current ANCs may run for Delegate.
263	Sec. 3b	This section should include the Governor, Attorney General, and all other members of the House of Delegates.
264	Sec. 3c	Who is the finder of fact on residency questions?
265	Sec. 4a	All laws should have to be passed by a majority of the members of the House.
266	Sec. 4a	The House should be able to regulate itself.
267	Sec. 4a3	When does emergency or permanent legislation becomes effective?
268	Sec. 4a4	Remove paragraph (B) in the resolutions power.
269	Sec. 4b	Having Acts be published upon becoming law means they will take effect before people know what they are. They should become law upon being adopted and published.

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270	Sec. 4b	There should be included after the words "public notice" the following: "and comment, comments to be published and addressed."
271	Sec. 4e	The Governor should not have a line-item veto on the budget.
272	Sec. 4f	What is the House's authority to create or abolish offices, especially in relation to the Governor's reorganization authority?
273	Sec. 4f	The words "not established in this Constitution" should be added.
274	Sec. 4f	This authority gives the House too much power.
275	Sec. 4f	The section violates separation of powers. It should be subject to a vote of the citizens.
276	Sec. 4g	The Auditor position should be established and required, in line with the 1987 Constitution, and impose duties.
277	Sec. 4g	The Auditor should be independent in which programs to audit and apply audit procedures the Auditor deems appropriate and should include both the legislative and executive branches.
278	Sec. 4g	The Auditor's access to documents should not be "subject to a privilege."
279	Sec. 4g	The words "not belonging to a Delegate, Attorney General, or Governor" at the end in place of "subject to a privilege."
280	Sec. 4g	The Auditor should have access to employees of the State.
281	Sec. 4g	The executive should be required to acknowledge and respond to audits in writing.
282	Sec. 4g	The Auditor's compensation should not be able to be reduced during the term.
283	Sec. 4g	Each Auditor should be appointed to a new six-year term, regardless of whether the previous Auditor completed a six-year term.
284	Sec. 6	Spell out if the Wards will become Legislative Districts or some other map will be used.
285	Sec. 6	Legislative districts should be drawn by a non-partisan commission, be contiguous, reasonably compact, follow existing neighborhoods and boundaries where possible, and have equivalent populations.
286	Sec. 6	There should be a section against gerrymandering.
287	Sec. 6	There is no reference to current districts.
288	Sec. 7	Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) should be abolished in favor of more Delegates.
289	Sec. 7	ANCs should be created by Act, not constitutionally established.
290	Sec. 7	Clarify that the House may establish whether ANC's can be paid and how many/few there are to be.
291	Sec. 7	There are no basic qualifications, including residency, for ANC's. They should be the same as the House.
292	Sec. 7	The House should provide by Act that ANC's should be given timely notice of Executive Branch actions in the area for input.
293	Sec. 7	ANC written recommendations should be given great weight during deliberations. When rejected, written reasons must be given.
294	Sec. 7	New Columbia should allot funding apportioned by the neighborhood's total population.
295	Sec. 7	Add that the House should provide for ANC funds and accounts by Act.
296	Sec. 7	ANC provisions should be changed so that students who regularly move aren't disenfranchised, either by creating an exception for students or having multimember districts.

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297	Sec. 7	ANCs should get a stipend.
298	Sec. 7	All ANC powers should be constitutionalized.
299	Sec. 7	ANC structure should be constitutionalized.
300	Sec. 7	ANCs should be expressly limited to an advisory role, and any legislative role should be prohibited.
301	Sec. 7a	ANCs should not have to collect signatures.
302	Sec. 7a	Requirements that candidates get 5% of qualified electors will be administratively cumbersome and creates disparities because of the differences between residents and registered voters.
303	Sec. 7a	ANC areas should be drawn based on the decennial census and natural geographic and historic boundaries, not based on the Single Member District concept of equal population, to avoid gerrymandering.
304	Sec. 7b	The powers of the ANCs are poorly defined because they have no power to legislate and "advising the House" is vague.
305	Sec. 7b	Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should be able to expend donated funds in addition to public funds.
Article II		
306	Sec. 1	Vest the Governor with the "Chief Executive" power rather than the "executive" power.
307	Sec. 2	The Governor should be elected on a nonpartisan basis.
308	Sec. 2	Clarify whether Governor is elected in Presidential election years and if they are staggered with Speaker.
309	Sec. 2	The Governor should have a term limit, with suggestions ranging from 2 to 10 terms.
310	Sec. 2	The Governor should be elected by ranked choice voting in primaries and the top two candidates in the general election.
311	Sec. 3a	Clarify who determines, and by what process, whether the Governor has forfeited his or her office.
312	Sec. 3a	The Governor should be replaced by an elected Lieutenant Governor rather than by the Speaker of the House.
313	Sec. 3a	There should be a specified minimum age for Governor, like 18.
314	Sec. 3	Governors removed due to a felony conviction should not be eligible to run for any office again.
315	Sec. 3a1B	The Governor should have a longer residency requirement, with suggestions including 2 years and 4 years.
316	Sec. 3a1C	The text should say "holds no other public office" instead of "holds no office."
317	Sec. 3a2	Special elections should be held between 90 and 120 days.
318	Sec. 3a2	It should say "to fill a vacancy of the Governor's position."
319	Sec. 3b	There should be a provision for the Governor to step aside temporarily, as in the US Constitution.
320	Sec. 3c	The sentence that disallows the House from reducing a future Governor's salary should be removed.
321	Sec. 3c	The newly elected House of Delegates should newly set the salary structure for all elected officials.
322	Sec. 3c	All elected officials should have their salaries established by the House, including the COO, and changes should not go into effect until the next election.
323	Sec. 3d	The Governor does not forfeit office if she does not maintain residency. This should be changed.
324	Sec. 4	There is too much detail for a Constitution about the duties of the Governor.
325	Sec. 4	The Governor's appointment power for Agency Heads should be included.

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326	Sec. 4	Strike redundant language concerning the Governor's powers and duties.
327	Sec. 4	The Governor should be given explicit commander in chief authority over the National Guard.
328	Sec. 4c	The Governor should not supervise and direct boards, commissions, and agencies, particularly if independent agencies aren't established.
329	Sec. 4c	Boards should retain their powers.
330	Sec. 4d	All Acts should have to originate in the House of Delegates.
331	Sec. 4e	The Governor should not be allowed to delegate pardon power.
332	Sec. 4g	The Governor's power to appoint an Administrator and COO does not require confirmation and should.
333	Sec. 4g	There should not be a requirement to appoint an Administrator and COO. This option should be left to the Governor.
334	Sec. 4g	The Chief Operating Officer's salary should be approved by the House of Delegates
335	Sec. 4g	The Chief Operating Officer's and Administrator's salaries should not exceed the Governor's.
336	Sec. 4g	Administrator and Chief Operating Officer should be defined.
337	Sec. 4i	The sentence on compacts should recognize federal limits of Art. I, Sec. 10 by including "subject to federal law."
338	Sec. 4j	Why not retain the Home Rule Act and 1982 Constitution provisions giving the Council (House) passive review authority for reorganizations?
339	Sec. 4j	Should the Governor have the power to reorganize executive agencies and offices?
340	Sec. 4j	This section gives the Governor the power to reorganize offices within the Executive branch, but the Attorney General is within this branch. The Governor should not be able to reorganize the Attorney General's office and staff.
341	Sec. 4k	Does the Governor's pardon power extend to crimes committed before Statehood?
342	Sec. 4l	This section contradicts Article I Sec. 10 of the US Constitution.
343	Sec. 4m	"Planning authority" should be defined.
344	Sec. 4m	There should be an independent planning authority.
345	Sec. 4m	The planning authority should not be unlimited. This may discourage cooperation, as some planning will come under the purview of other branches.
346	Sec. 4n	Administration of financial affairs should reside in the legislature.
347	Sec. 5	The Attorney General will still be elected under law, and the position should not be constitutionalized.
348	Sec. 5	The constitution should include substantive duties of the Attorney General, including the authority to prosecute civil and criminal cases.
349	Sec. 5	The Attorney General should be elected by ranked choice voting in primaries and the top two candidates in the general election.
350	Sec. 5	The Attorney General should be elected on a nonpartisan basis.
351	Sec. 5	Consolidate 5(a) and (c) for the Attorney General.
352	Sec. 5	There are no provisions on domiciliary requirements, DC bar membership, forfeiture of office, and vacancies for the Attorney General.
353	Sec. 5	The Attorney General should have personnel power.

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Number	Provision	Comments
354	Sec. 5	The Attorney General's term of office should be 2 years because of its tremendous political power.
355	Sec. 5	The Attorney General should not be a part of the Executive Branch and should be independent.
356	Sec. 5	There should be added the following, "All candidates for Attorney General shall promise and commit that they will not be a candidate for any elected public office for the first fifteen years after leaving that position, and No Attorney General or former Attorney General shall not in fact be a candidate for any elected public office. The same requirements shall be imposed on all other attorneys in the Office of the Attorney General." This will remove politics from decisions.
357	Sec. 5	The Attorney General should be elected on a schedule opposite of the Governor.
358	Sec. 5b	In case there is a vacancy in the Attorney General, should the House consent to appoint the Chief Deputy?
359	Sec. 6	Removal of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) is too onerous. The House should not have to give assent to removal for cause.
360	Sec. 6	The CFO should have to report to the House of Delegates as well as the Governor.
361	Sec. 6	The position of Treasurer should be established, and it could be under the CFO.
362	Sec. 6	Why is the CFO's term 5 years? It should be 7.
363	Sec. 6d & e	The text in this section is gray, not black.
364	Sec. 6d	The CFO should not prepare the budget under the direction of the Governor.
365	Sec. 6e	Everything before "the Chief Financial Office shall" should be deleted.
366	Sec. 6e	Many of the CFO's duties should be left to statute.
367	Sec. 6e	Tax duties of CFO belong with Governor, regardless of who handles them now.
368	Sec. 7	The State Board of Education should be handled by statute.
369	Sec. 7	Clarify whether the State Board of Education's authority extends to universities, public and private.
370	Sec. 7	Clarify that Governor has ultimate control over public schools, subject to the role of the House.
371	Sec. 7	The State Board of Education should be enlarged and have their powers enumerated.
372	Sec. 7	The State Board of Education should retain its powers.
373	Sec. 7	Consider whether there should be a single elected official responsible for statewide education policy.
374	Sec. 7a	There should not be a reference to the 8 districts in case of a change.
375	Sec. 7a	The State Board of Education should have an established number. Suggestions include at least 17 members and 1/3 the number of the House, with a minimum of 9.
376	Sec. 7a	It does not say that members of the State Board are elected.
377	Sec. 7b	The State Board of Education should have separate powers, including the power of taxation and separate accounts.
378	Sec. 7b2	The State Board of Education should not have their potential powers limited to those in the Home Rule Act. The last sentence should be deleted to maintain flexibility.
379	Sec. 7b2	The words "if any" should be struck so that the State Board can adjust statutes based on federal education law.
380	Sec. 7b2	If the State Board of Education is not abolished, the Board should not be able to reject policies of the House.
381	Sec. 7b2	Should not enshrine Mayoral control of State Board of Education in the constitution.

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Number	Provision	Comments
382	All	The Elections agency should be created in the constitution.
383	All	The Executive should not have more power than the other branches.
384	All	The Secretary of State should be constitutionalized and included under the Governor.
385	All	There should be a code of conduct for all elected officials in this Article.
Article III		
386	All	The authority to create an intermediate court of appeals or other specialized courts is missing.
387	All	How much will it cost to bring back courts and prisoners?
388	All	There should be term and age limits for judges.
389	All	The House of Delegates should not be able to reduce the salary or benefits of any judge.
390	Sec. 1	Rename the D.C. Court of Appeals the Supreme Court.
391	Sec. 2	The number of Judges on all Courts should be established, including new intermediate courts.
392	Sec. 2	Judges should be appointed for a set period of time and then have a retention vote by the people.
393	Sec. 2	The Attorney General should have the power to appoint judges.
394	Sec. 2a	Should there be a reference to an Act or Resolution in the section giving the House the power to confirm judicial nominations?
395	Sec. 2a	The method of appointment, specified duties, and other details of the Judicial Nominations Commission should be included.
396	Sec. 2a	The Judicial Nomination Commission should be abolished.
397	Sec. 2b	Judges should have a life appointment.
398	Sec. 3	The domicile requirement should be for the term of office.
399	Sec. 3	Judges cannot be active members of the DC bar, so there should be no requirement for reappointments.
400	Sec. 3a1	Potential judges should have a longer residency requirement, with the lowest suggestion at 2 years.
401	Sec. 3a2	Allow membership in the D.C. Bar to count towards a prospective judge's eligibility.
402	Sec. 3a2	Does the five year requirement have to be consecutive?
403	Sec. 3b	Clarify the removal process for judges by, for example, assigning removal to something akin to a Judicial Disabilities Commission
404	Sec. 3b5	The phrase "habitual intemperance" should be changed to something contemporaneous.
405	Sec. 3b5	Strike unnecessary language concerning "mental or physical disability"; should refer to any condition that interferes with the judge's performance of duty.
406	Sec. 3b5	There should be a code of judicial conduct.
407	Sec. 3b5	The wording in this section is negative to people with disabilities. "Disability" should be changed to "incapacity" or reference the Code of Judicial Conduct.
408	Sec. 4	The powers of courts are too detailed. We should delete all after the first sentence.
409	Sec. 5	Rewrite the Chief Judges section to allow for possibility of intermediate courts.
410	Sec. 5	It should include what the Chief Judge's role is.

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Number	Provision	Comments
Article IV		
411	All	There is too much detail for a Constitution about the budget.
412	All	Should we say whether anyone has standing to sue over an un-balanced budget?
413	All	Can the state declare bankruptcy? If so, should it be in the constitution?
414	All	We should talk about how we raise money as well as how much we raise, to balance between access and user fees.
415	Sec. 2	The budget should have to be made public before a vote by the House of Delegates.
416	Sec. 2b	The word "for" should be changed to "proposed by" so that independent agencies may propose budgets that meet their needs.
417	Sec. 2b	The Attorney General, State Board of Education, Chief Financial Officer, and other agencies like that should submit their own budgets.
418	Sec. 2c	Budgetary reprogrammings should not be allowed.
419	Sec. 3	It says the House shall adopt the budget but does not give it the power to amend the Governor's submission.
420	Sec. 3	ANCs should be able to review and vote on the budget.
421	Sec. 3 and 4	Could Adoption of Budget and Financial Statements be left to legislation?
422	Sec. 5	The balanced budget requirement is too vague in how it is determined.
423	Sec. 5	There should be a provision for limited deficit spending.
424	Sec. 5	There should not be a mandate for a balanced budget.
425	Sec. 6	The House of Delegates should not have the power to approve contracts. This could be phased out.
426	Sec. 6	The House of Delegates should not have their power to approve contracts limited.
427	Sec. 6	Strike the phrase "review prior to the contract going into effect" and insert "review and approval" in its place.
428	Sec. 7	Do various payments to emergency and contingency fund count against the balanced budget?
429	Sec. 7	Why have emergency and contingency funds?
430	Sec. 7	There should not be restraints on the replenishment of emergency and reserve funds.
431	Sec. 7	The House should be able to change the percentages in this section by Act.
432	Sec. 7	Do we need to include emergency and contingency reserve funds in the Constitution? The Legislature should be allowed to decide the particulars of the size, use, and replenishment of funds.
Article V		
433	All	There is too much detail for a Constitution about the required conditions for borrowing.
434	All	The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) recommends that there should be a section that exempts bonds from most taxes.
435	All	The OCFO recommends that there should be a section on Legal Investment that allows New Columbia fiduciaries to invest in bonds issued under this Article.
436	All	There should be a special tax mechanism to fund environmental goals to create a green city.
437	Sec. 1	The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) recommends that there should be a definition of "capital projects."

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Number	Provision	Comments
438	Sec. 2	The OCFO recommends that there should be more detail in what provisions the Act shall include, including language authorizing the sale of bonds and the creation of security interests.
439	Sec. 2	The OCFO recommends that there should be a requirement to print the Act in a newspaper.
440	Sec. 3c	The OCFO recommends that this section should be deleted.
441	Sec. 4c	The OCFO recommends that this section should specify how anticipated revenue is calculated.
442	Sec. 5	Special taxes should have an end date as a requirement for adoption.
443	Sec. 7	The OCFO recommends that payment of principal, interest, and redemption premiums on general obligation bonds should not be subject to appropriations.
444	Sec. 8a	The OCFO recommends that there be added a section 5 that explains which obligations and expenditures are not subject to appropriations.
445	Sec. 8a1	The OCFO recommends that "for a public purpose" be defined.
446	Sec. 8a4	Only the Governor or an independent agency should be allowed to enter into these agreements, not the House of Delegates.
447	Sec. 8e1	The OCFO recommends that "department of the executive branch" should be changed to "independent instrumentality of New Columbia."
448	Sec. 9	The debt cap should not be set at 17%
449	Sec. 9	The OCFO recommends that the 17% limitation should be set in accordance with Section 603(b)(3) of the Home Rule Act.
Article VI		
450	All	Election and recall process needs to be strong to hold elected officials accountable.
451	Sec. 1	Citizen initiatives should not be able to amend Constitution.
452	Sec. 1	Initiatives should be allowed to cancel appropriated funds.
453	Sec. 1	Initiatives should be able to raise and appropriate funds.
454	Sec. 1	Language should be taken from current DC law to prohibit initiatives and referenda that violate the Human Rights Act.
455	Sec. 1a	Initiatives should also prohibit laws that have the effect of authorizing discrimination.
456	Sec. 1b	Referenda should not be allowed on acts prohibiting or having the effect of prohibiting discrimination.
457	Sec. 1b	The referendum language is too broad and allows a passionate minority to protect their interests.
458	Sec. 1b	Referenda should apply to emergency acts and appropriation of funds.
459	Sec. 1d	Why must the registered voter count be taken at least 30 days before?
460	Sec. 2	Percentages should apply to total population rather than total registered voters, though only registered voters could sign.
461	Sec. 2	The signature requirements should be lower.
462	Sec. 2	ANCs should be able to vote to start an initiative that would then be authorized to go on the ballot.
463	Sec. 2	Petitioners should be limited to 180 days to collect signatures.
464	Sec. 2	There should only be a requirement for 5 percent of the total registered voters, no other requirements.

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Number	Provision	Comments
465	Sec. 3	Should initiatives and referenda be on special election or primary ballots?
466	Sec. 3	The time limits for initiatives and referenda should be switched.
467	Sec. 5	Measures should take effect within 90 days of certification.
468	Sec. 7	The recall provision should prevent a recalled official from running for the same job again.
469	Sec. 7	Recalls should not be used for the State Board of Education and ANCs.
470	Sec. 8	Recalls should be permitted only once per term.
471	Sec. 8	Recalls filed within a year of failed recalls should not require approval by the elections agency.
Article VII		
472	All	There should be another constitutional convention before the end of the year.
473	All	The constitution should call for a constitutional convention with delegates within 5 years.
474	All	The constitution should include what qualifies as a constitutional convention.
475	All	Voters should be able to call for a constitutional convention by referendum that the legislature must then provide for within 6 months.
476	All	There should be a separation of powers clause preventing employees of one branch from holding functions in another branch.
477	Sec. 1	There should be a required quarterly publication of the use of public dollars and expenditures.
478	Sec. 1	It is not clear what effect the "openness and transparency" language is meant to have; it should be clarified or struck.
479	Sec. 1	We should include a core value of public participation so that all people have a voice.
480	Sec. 3	It is too easy to amend the constitution. It should be 2/3 of the House of Delegates and 2 votes by the Council. Others suggest 60% or 3/4 requirement for passage.
481	Sec. 3	The citizens should be able to initiate a constitutional amendment. It should include an option to amend by citizen's initiative or a constitutional convention.
482	Sec. 3	Is a ratification referendum mandated? If so, say so.
483	Sec. 3a	There should be a requirement of passage by a majority of voters at 2 referenda.
484	Sec. 4	Is the effective date realistic? What should be separate from constitution?
Article VIII		
485	All	The transition provisions should call for immediate elections.
486	All	Should there be a time frame for new elections post-statehood?
487	All	All offices should be voted on within one year after admission.
488	All	The constitution should follow the 1982 timeline for new elections of offices after statehood.
489	All	Current officials should have their terms end on January 3rd after the next general election.
490	Sec. 1	A new State of New Columbia wouldn't have the authority to abolish the District government or declare itself the heir to District government institutions and proceedings; only Congress could do that.
491	Sec. 1	There should be a provision that the shadow delegation become the Senators and Representative of the new state.
492	Sec. 1a	This section does not specify that ANCs become ANCs under the new state.

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Number	Provision	Comments
493	Sec. 1b	The phrase "same schedule" is vague and should be rewritten to clarify that House members will retain staggered terms.
494	Sec. 1e	Federal members of boards and commissions should be dealt with individually through legislation, not through a broad constitutional provision.
495	Sec. 2a	Judge terms should end on January 3rd after the second general election.
496	Sec. 3	Court orders under which DC is working need to be carried over.
497	Sec. 4b	The transition provision for District laws should say that New Columbia is adopting the District's laws, not that the laws will "continue in force and effect."
498	Sec. 9	It is uncertain whether a State of New Columbia could lawfully empower non-residents to vote in its elections.