

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1278

To provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the  
Union.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. Kaine, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide for the admission of the State of Washington,  
D.C. into the Union.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Washington, D.C. Admission Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

## TITLE I—STATE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

## Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

- Sec. 101. Admission into the Union.  
 Sec. 102. Election of officials of State.  
 Sec. 103. Issuance of presidential proclamation.

## Subtitle B—Description of Washington, D.C. Territory

- Sec. 111. Territories and boundaries of Washington, D.C.  
 Sec. 112. Description of District of Columbia after admission of State.  
 Sec. 113. Continuation of title to lands and property.

## Subtitle C—General Provisions Relating to Laws of Washington, D.C.

- Sec. 121. Limitation on authority of State to tax Federal property.  
 Sec. 122. Effect of admission of State on current laws.  
 Sec. 123. Continuation of judicial proceedings.  
 Sec. 124. United States nationality.

## TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Sec. 201. Continuation of revised District of Columbia as seat of Federal Government.  
 Sec. 202. Treatment of military lands.  
 Sec. 203. Waiver of claims to Federal lands and property.  
 Sec. 204. Permitting individuals residing in new seat of government to vote in Federal elections in State of most recent domicile.  
 Sec. 205. Repeal of law providing for participation of District of Columbia in election of President and Vice-President.  
 Sec. 206. Expedited procedures for consideration of constitutional amendment repealing 23rd Amendment.

## TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. General definitions.  
 Sec. 302. Certification of enactment by President.

1                   **TITLE I—STATE OF**  
 2                   **WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
 3                   **Subtitle A—Procedures for**  
 4                   **Admission**

5   **SEC. 101. ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.**

- 6           (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this  
 7 Act, upon issuance of the proclamation required by section  
 8 103(b), the State of Washington, Douglass Common-

1 wealth is declared to be a State of the United States of  
2 America, and is declared admitted into the Union on an  
3 equal footing with the other States in all respects what-  
4 ever.

5 (b) CONSTITUTION OF STATE.—The State Constitu-  
6 tion shall always be republican in form and shall not be  
7 repugnant to the Constitution of the United States and  
8 the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

9 **SEC. 102. ELECTION OF OFFICIALS OF STATE.**

10 (a) ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after  
12 receiving certification of the enactment of this Act  
13 from the President pursuant to section 302, the  
14 Mayor of the District of Columbia shall issue a pro-  
15 clamation for the first elections, subject to the provi-  
16 sions of this section, for two Senators and one Rep-  
17 resentative in Congress.

18 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ELECTION OF SEN-  
19 ATORS.—In the election of Senators from the State  
20 pursuant to paragraph (1), the 2 Senate offices shall  
21 be separately identified and designated, and no per-  
22 son may be a candidate for both offices. No such  
23 identification or designation of either of the offices  
24 shall refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of  
25 such offices, or in any way impair the privilege of

1 the Senate to determine the class to which each of  
2 the Senators elected shall be assigned.

3 (b) RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The proclamation of the  
5 Mayor issued under subsection (a) shall provide for  
6 the holding of a primary election and a general elec-  
7 tion and at such elections the officers required to be  
8 elected as provided in subsection (a) shall be chosen  
9 by the qualified electors of the District of Columbia  
10 in the manner required by law.

11 (2) CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS.—Election re-  
12 turns shall be made and certified in the manner re-  
13 quired by law, except that the Mayor shall also cer-  
14 tify the results of such elections to the President of  
15 the United States.

16 (c) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Upon the admission  
17 of the State into the Union, the Senators and Representa-  
18 tive elected at the election described in subsection (a) shall  
19 be entitled to be admitted to seats in Congress and to all  
20 the rights and privileges of Senators and Representatives  
21 of other States in the Congress of the United States.

22 (d) TRANSFER OF OFFICES OF MAYOR AND MEM-  
23 BERS AND CHAIR OF COUNCIL.—Upon the admission of  
24 the State into the Union, the Mayor, members of the  
25 Council, and the Chair of the Council at the time of admis-

1 sion shall be deemed the Governor, members of the Legis-  
2 lative Assembly, and the Speaker of the Legislative As-  
3 sembly of the State, respectively, as provided by the State  
4 Constitution and the laws of the State.

5 (e) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY AND DUTIES AND  
6 JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—Upon the admis-  
7 sion of the State into the Union, members of executive  
8 and judicial offices of the District of Columbia shall be  
9 deemed members of the respective executive and judicial  
10 offices of the State, as provided by the State Constitution  
11 and the laws of the State.

12 (f) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
13 TIVES MEMBERSHIP.—The State upon its admission into  
14 the Union shall be entitled to one Representative until the  
15 taking effect of the next reapportionment, and such Rep-  
16 resentative shall be in addition to the membership of the  
17 House of Representatives as prescribed by law on the day  
18 before the date of enactment of this Act, except that such  
19 temporary increase in the membership shall not operate  
20 to either increase or decrease the permanent membership  
21 of the House of Representatives or affect the basis of ap-  
22 portionment for the Congress.

23 **SEC. 103. ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President, upon certification  
25 of the returns of the election of the officers required to

1 be elected as provided in section 102(a), shall, not later  
 2 than 90 days after receiving such certification, issue a  
 3 proclamation announcing the results of such elections as  
 4 so ascertained.

5 (b) ADMISSION OF STATE UPON ISSUANCE OF PROC-  
 6 LAMATION.—Upon the issuance of the proclamation by the  
 7 President under subsection (a), the State shall be deemed  
 8 admitted into the Union as provided in section 101.

9 **Subtitle B—Description of**  
 10 **Washington, D.C. Territory**

11 **SEC. 111. TERRITORIES AND BOUNDARIES OF WASH-**  
 12 **INGTON, D.C.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
 14 (b), the State shall consist of all of the territory of the  
 15 District of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of  
 16 this Act, subject to the results of the technical survey con-  
 17 ducted under subsection (c).

18 (b) EXCLUSION OF PORTION OF DISTRICT OF CO-  
 19 LUMBIA REMAINING AS NATIONAL CAPITAL.—The terri-  
 20 tory of the State shall not include the area described in  
 21 section 112, which shall remain as the District of Colum-  
 22 bia for purposes of serving as the seat of the Government  
 23 of the United States.

24 (c) TECHNICAL SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days  
 25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President

1 (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital  
 2 Planning Commission) shall conduct a technical survey of  
 3 the metes and bounds of the District of Columbia and of  
 4 the territory described in section 112(b).

5 **SEC. 112. DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AFTER**  
 6 **ADMISSION OF STATE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), after  
 8 the admission of the State into the Union, the District  
 9 of Columbia shall consist of the property described in sub-  
 10 section (b) and shall include the principal Federal monu-  
 11 ments, the White House, the Capitol Building, the United  
 12 States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal execu-  
 13 tive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adja-  
 14 cent to the Mall and the Capitol Building (as such terms  
 15 are used in section 8501(a) of title 40, United States  
 16 Code).

17 (b) SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF METES AND  
 18 BOUNDS.—After the admission of the State into the  
 19 Union, the specific metes and bounds of the District of  
 20 Columbia shall be as follows: Beginning at the intersection  
 21 of the southern right-of-way of F Street NE and the east-  
 22 ern right-of-way of 2nd Street NE—

23 (1) thence south along said eastern right-of-way  
 24 of 2nd Street NE to the eastern right-of-way of 2nd  
 25 Street SE;

1           (2) thence south along said eastern right-of-way  
2 of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the north-  
3 ern property boundary of the property designated as  
4 Square 760 Lot 803;

5           (3) thence east along said northern property  
6 boundary of Square 760 Lot 803 to its intersection  
7 with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE;

8           (4) thence south along said western right-of-  
9 way of 3rd Street SE to its intersection with the  
10 northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE;

11           (5) thence west along said northern right-of-  
12 way of Independence Avenue SE to its intersection  
13 with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

14           (6) thence south along said eastern right-of way  
15 of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the south-  
16 ern right-of-way of C Street SE;

17           (7) thence west along said southern right-of-  
18 way of C Street SE to its intersection with the east-  
19 ern right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

20           (8) thence south along said eastern right-of-way  
21 of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the southern  
22 right-of-way of D Street SE;

23           (9) thence west along said southern right-of-  
24 way of D Street SE to its intersection with the west-  
25 ern right-of-way of South Capitol Street;



1           (10) thence south along said western right-of-  
2           way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with  
3           the southwestern right-of-way of the northwest-  
4           bound lanes of Canal Street SE;

5           (11) thence southeast along said southwestern  
6           right-of-way of the northwest-bound lanes of Canal  
7           Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-  
8           of-way of E Street SE;

9           (12) thence east along said southern right-of-  
10          way of said E Street SE to its intersection with the  
11          western right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

12          (13) thence south along said western right-of-  
13          way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the  
14          southernmost corner of the property designated as  
15          Square 736S Lot 801.

16          (14) thence west along a line extended due west  
17          from said corner of said property designated as  
18          Square 736S Lot 801 to its intersection with the  
19          southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue  
20          SE;

21          (15) thence southeast along said southwestern  
22          right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE to its inter-  
23          section with the northwestern right-of-way of Vir-  
24          ginia Avenue SE;

1           (16) thence northwest along said northwestern  
2 right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE to its intersec-  
3 tion with the eastern right-of-way of South Capitol  
4 Street;

5           (17) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
6 way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with  
7 the southern right-of-way of E Street SE;

8           (18) thence west along a line extending west-  
9 ward said southern right-of-way of E Street SE to  
10 its intersection with the western right-of-way of  
11 South Capitol Street;

12           (19) thence north along said western right-of-  
13 way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with  
14 the southwestern right-of-way of Washington Avenue  
15 SW;

16           (20) thence northwest along said southwestern  
17 right-of-way of Washington Avenue SW to its inter-  
18 section with the southeastern boundary of the prop-  
19 erty designated as Square 640 Lot 70;

20           (21) thence clockwise around said boundary of  
21 said property designated as Square 640 Lot 70 to  
22 its northernmost point;

23           (22) thence generally northeast along a line ex-  
24 tending the boundary of said property designated as  
25 Square 640 Lot 70 northeast to its intersection with

1 the southwestern right-of-way of Washington Avenue  
2 SW;

3 (23) thence northwest along said southwestern  
4 right-of-way of Washington Avenue SW to its inter-  
5 section with a line extending northward the western  
6 boundary of the property designated as Square 582  
7 Lot 49;

8 (24) thence south along said line extending  
9 northward the western boundary of said property  
10 designated as Square 582 Lot 49 to the north-  
11 western corner of said property designated as  
12 Square 582 Lot 49;

13 (25) thence clockwise along the boundary of  
14 said property designated as Square 582 Lot 49 to  
15 its southwestern corner;

16 (26) thence west along a line extended west  
17 from said southwestern corner of said property des-  
18 igned as Square 582 Lot 49 to its intersection  
19 with the western right-of-way of 2nd Street SW;

20 (27) thence south along said western right-of-  
21 way of 2nd Street SW to its intersection with the  
22 southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW;

23 (28) thence northwest along said southwestern  
24 right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW to its intersec-  
25 tion with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW;

1           (29) thence north along said western right-of-  
2 way of 3rd Street SW to its intersection with the  
3 northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

4           (30) thence west along said northern right-of-  
5 way of D Street SW to its intersection with the east-  
6 ern right-of-way of 4th Street SW;

7           (31) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
8 way of 4th Street SW to its intersection with the  
9 northern right-of-way of C Street SW;

10          (32) thence west along said northern right-of-  
11 way of C Street SW to its intersection with the east-  
12 ern right-of-way of 6th Street SW;

13          (33) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
14 way of 6th Street SW to its intersection with the  
15 northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW;

16          (34) thence west along said northern right-of-  
17 way of Independence Avenue SW to its intersection  
18 with the western right-of-way of 12th Street SW;

19          (35) thence south along said western right-of-  
20 way of 12th Street SW to its intersection with the  
21 northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

22          (36) thence west along said northern right-of-  
23 way of D Street SW to its intersection with the  
24 western right-of-way of 14th Street SW;

1           (37) thence south along said western right-of-  
2           way of 14th Street SW to its end at the south-  
3           eastern corner of the property designated as Square  
4           231 Lot 802;

5           (38) thence northwest along the southwest  
6           boundary of said property designated as Square 231  
7           Lot 802 to its first intersection with a corner of the  
8           property designated as Federal Reservation 2;

9           (39) thence southwest along the boundary of  
10          said property designated as Federal Reservation 2 to  
11          its southernmost point;

12          (40) thence southwest and west along the  
13          northwestern edge of pavement of the southbound  
14          lanes of 14th Street SW to the point where said  
15          southbound lanes of 14th Street SW merge with the  
16          southbound lanes of Interstate 395;

17          (41) thence continuing southwest along the  
18          northwestern edge of pavement of the southbound  
19          lanes of Interstate 395 to its intersection with the  
20          eastern shore of the Potomac River;

21          (42) thence generally northwest along said east-  
22          ern shore of the Potomac River to its intersection  
23          with a line extending westward the northern bound-  
24          ary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot  
25          806;

1           (43) thence east along said line extending west-  
2           ward the northern boundary of the property des-  
3           ignated as Square 12 Lot 806 to the northern prop-  
4           erty boundary of the property designated as Square  
5           12 Lot 806, and continuing east along said northern  
6           boundary of said property designated as Square 12  
7           Lot 806 to its northeast corner;

8           (44) thence east along a line extending east  
9           from said property designated as Square 12 Lot 806  
10          to its intersection with the western boundary of the  
11          property designated as Square 33 Lot 87;

12          (45) thence south along said western boundary  
13          of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to  
14          its intersection with the northwest corner of the  
15          property designated as Square 33 Lot 88;

16          (46) thence counter-clockwise around the  
17          boundary of said property designated as Square 33  
18          Lot 88 to its southeast corner, which it shares with  
19          the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87;

20          (47) thence east along the southern boundary  
21          of said property designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to  
22          its southeast corner;

23          (48) thence south along a line running due  
24          south from said southeast corner of the property

1 designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to its intersection  
2 with the southern edge of pavement of E Street NW;

3 (49) thence east along said southern edge of  
4 pavement E Street NW to its intersection with the  
5 western right-of-way of 18th Street NW;

6 (50) thence south along said western right-of-  
7 way of 18th Street NW to its intersection with the  
8 southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW;

9 (51) thence southeast along said southwestern  
10 right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW to its intersec-  
11 tion with the northern right-of-way of Constitution  
12 Avenue NW;

13 (52) thence continuing southeast along a line  
14 extending the southwestern right-of-way of Virginia  
15 Avenue NW to its intersection with the southern  
16 right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

17 (53) thence east along said southern right-of-  
18 way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection  
19 with the eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW;

20 (54) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
21 way of 17th Street NW to its intersection with the  
22 southern right-of-way of H Street NW;

23 (55) thence east along said southern right-of-  
24 way of H Street NW to its intersection with the

1 northwest corner of the property designated as  
2 Square 221 Lot 35;

3 (56) thence counter-clockwise around the  
4 boundary of said property designated as Square 221  
5 Lot 35 to its southeast corner, which is along the  
6 boundary of the property designated as Square 221  
7 Lot 37;

8 (57) thence counter-clockwise around the  
9 boundary of said property designated as Square 221  
10 Lot 37 to its southwest corner, which it shares with  
11 the property designated as Square 221 Lot 818;

12 (58) thence south along the boundary of said  
13 property designated as Square 221 Lot 818 to its  
14 southwest corner, which it shares with the property  
15 designated as Square 221 Lot 809;

16 (59) thence south along the boundary of said  
17 property designated as Square 221 Lot 809 to its  
18 southwest corner, which it shares with the property  
19 designated as Square 221 Lot 800;

20 (60) thence counter-clockwise along the bound-  
21 ary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot  
22 800 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the  
23 property designated as Square 221 Lot 810;

24 (61) thence counter-clockwise along the bound-  
25 ary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot



1 810 to its southwest corner, which is along the  
2 northern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

3 (62) thence east along said northern right-of-  
4 way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection  
5 with the western right-of-way of 15th Street NW;

6 (63) thence south along said western right-of-  
7 way of 15th Street NW to its intersection with a line  
8 extending northwest from the southern right-of-way  
9 of the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue NW north of  
10 Pershing Square;

11 (64) thence southeast along said line extending  
12 the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue  
13 NW to the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania  
14 Avenue NW and continuing southeast along said  
15 southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
16 to its intersection with the western right-of-way of  
17 14th Street NW;

18 (65) thence south along said western right-of-  
19 way of 14th Street NW to its intersection with a line  
20 extending west from the southern right-of-way of D  
21 Street NW;

22 (66) thence east along said line extending west  
23 from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW to  
24 the southern right-of-way of D Street NW, and con-  
25 tinuing east along said southern right-of-way of D

1 Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-  
2 of-way of 13½ Street NW;

3 (67) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
4 way of 13½ Street NW to its intersection with the  
5 southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

6 (68) thence east and southeast along said  
7 southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
8 to its intersection with the western right-of-way of  
9 12th Street NW;

10 (69) thence south along said western right-of-  
11 way of 12th Street NW to its intersection with a line  
12 extending to the west the southern boundary of the  
13 property designated as Square 324 Lot 809;

14 (70) thence east along said line to the south-  
15 west corner of said property designated as Square  
16 324 Lot 809, and continuing northeast along the  
17 southern boundary of said property designated as  
18 Square 324 Lot 809 to its eastern corner, which it  
19 shares with the property designated as Square 323  
20 Lot 802;

21 (71) thence east along the southern boundary  
22 of said property designated as Square 323 Lot 802  
23 to its southeast corner, which it shares with the  
24 property designated as Square 324 Lot 808;

1           (72) thence counter-clockwise around the  
2 boundary of said property designated as Square 324  
3 Lot 808 to its northeastern corner along the south-  
4 ern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

5           (73) thence southeast along said southern right-  
6 of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersec-  
7 tion with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW;

8           (74) thence north along a line extending north  
9 from said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW to  
10 its intersection with a line extending west from the  
11 southern right-of-way of C Street NW;

12           (75) thence east along said line extending west  
13 from the southern right-of-way of C Street NW to  
14 the southern right-of-way of C Street NW, and con-  
15 tinuing east along said southern right-of-way of C  
16 Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-  
17 of-way of 3rd Street NW;

18           (76) thence north along said eastern right-of-  
19 way of 3rd Street NW to its intersection with the  
20 southern right-of-way of D Street NW;

21           (77) thence east along said southern right-of-  
22 way of D Street NW to its intersection with the  
23 western right-of-way of 1st Street NW;

1           (78) thence south along said western right-of-  
2           way of 1st Street NW to its intersection with the  
3           northern right-of-way of C Street NW;

4           (79) thence west along said northern right-of-  
5           way of C Street NW to its intersection with the  
6           western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW;

7           (80) thence south along said western right-of-  
8           way of 2nd Street NW to its intersection with the  
9           northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

10          (81) thence east along said northern right-of-  
11          way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection  
12          with the northwestern right-of-way of Louisiana Av-  
13          enue NW;

14          (82) thence northeast along said northwestern  
15          right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its inter-  
16          section with the southwestern right-of-way of New  
17          Jersey Avenue NW;

18          (83) thence northwest along said southwestern  
19          right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW to its inter-  
20          section with the northern right-of-way of D Street  
21          NW;

22          (84) thence east along said northern right-of-  
23          way of D Street NW to its intersection with the  
24          northwestern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;

1           (85) thence northeast along said northwestern  
2 right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its inter-  
3 section with the western right-of-way of North Cap-  
4 itol Street;

5           (86) thence north along said western right-of-  
6 way of North Capitol Street to its intersection with  
7 the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Ave-  
8 nue NW;

9           (87) thence southeast along said southwestern  
10 right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW to the  
11 southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue  
12 NE;

13           (88) thence southeast along said southwestern  
14 right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE to the  
15 southwestern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE;

16           (89) thence counter-clockwise along said south-  
17 western, then southern, southeastern, and eastern  
18 right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE to its intersec-  
19 tion with the southern right-of way of F Street NE;  
20 and

21           (90) thence east along said southern right-of-  
22 way of F Street NE to the point of beginning.

23 (c) EXCLUSION OF DISTRICT BUILDING.—

24           (1) EXCLUSION.—Notwithstanding any other  
25 provision of this section, the District of Columbia

1 shall not be considered to include the District Build-  
 2 ing after the admission of the State into the Union.

3 (2) DISTRICT BUILDING DEFINED.—In para-  
 4 graph (1), the term “District Building” means the  
 5 John A. Wilson Building described and designated  
 6 under section 601(a) of the Omnibus Spending Re-  
 7 duction Act of 1993 (sec. 10–1301(a), D.C. Official  
 8 Code).

9 **SEC. 113. CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS AND PROP-**  
 10 **ERTY.**

11 (a) CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS OF DIS-  
 12 TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The State and its political  
 14 subdivisions shall have and retain title to, or juris-  
 15 diction over, for purposes of administration and  
 16 maintenance, all property, real and personal, with  
 17 respect to which title or jurisdiction for purposes of  
 18 administration and maintenance is held by the Dis-  
 19 trict of Columbia on the day before the State is ad-  
 20 mitted into the Union.

21 (2) CONVEYANCE OF INTEREST IN CERTAIN  
 22 BRIDGES AND TUNNELS.—On the day before the  
 23 State is admitted into the Union, the District of Co-  
 24 lumbia shall convey to the United States any and all  
 25 interest of the District of Columbia in any bridge or

1 tunnel that will connect the Commonwealth of Vir-  
 2 ginia with the District of Columbia after the admis-  
 3 sion of the State into the Union.

4 (b) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL TITLE TO PROP-  
 5 ERTY IN STATE.—The United States shall have and retain  
 6 title to, or jurisdiction over, for purposes of administration  
 7 and maintenance, all property in the State with respect  
 8 to which the United States holds title or jurisdiction on  
 9 the day before the State is admitted into the Union.

10 **Subtitle C—General Provisions Re-**  
 11 **lating to Laws of Washington,**  
 12 **D.C.**

13 **SEC. 121. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF STATE TO TAX**  
 14 **FEDERAL PROPERTY.**

15 The State may not impose any taxes upon any lands  
 16 or other property owned or acquired by the United States,  
 17 except to the extent as Congress may permit.

18 **SEC. 122. EFFECT OF ADMISSION OF STATE ON CURRENT**  
 19 **LAWS.**

20 (a) LEGISLATIVE POWER OF STATE.—The legislative  
 21 power of the State shall extend to all rightful subjects of  
 22 legislation within the State, consistent with the Constitu-  
 23 tion of the United States (including the restrictions and  
 24 limitations imposed upon the States by article I, section  
 25 10) and subject to the provisions of this Act.

1 (b) TREATMENT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—To the extent  
2 that any law of the United States applies to the States  
3 generally, the law shall have the same force and effect  
4 within the State as elsewhere in the United States, except  
5 as such law may otherwise provide.

6 **SEC. 123. CONTINUATION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.**

7 (a) PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—No writ, action, indictment,  
9 cause, or proceeding pending in any court of the  
10 District of Columbia or in the United States District  
11 Court for the District of Columbia shall abate by  
12 reason of the admission of the State into the Union,  
13 but shall be transferred and shall proceed within  
14 such appropriate State courts as shall be established  
15 under the State Constitution, or shall continue in  
16 the United States District Court for the District of  
17 Columbia, as the nature of the case may require.

18 (2) SUCCESSION OF COURTS.—The appropriate  
19 courts of the State shall be the successors of the  
20 courts of the District of Columbia as to all cases  
21 arising within the limits embraced within the juris-  
22 diction of such courts, with full power to proceed  
23 with such cases, and award mesne or final process  
24 therein, and all files, records, indictments, and pro-  
25 ceedings relating to any such writ, action, indict-



1       ment, cause, or proceeding shall be transferred to  
2       such appropriate State courts and shall be proceeded  
3       with therein in due course of law.

4       (b) UNFILED PROCEEDINGS BASED ON ACTIONS  
5 PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—All civil causes of action and all  
6 criminal offenses which shall have arisen or been com-  
7 mitted prior to the admission of the State into the Union,  
8 but as to which no writ, action, indictment, or proceeding  
9 shall be pending at the date of such admission, shall be  
10 subject to prosecution in the appropriate State courts or  
11 in the United States District Court for the District of Co-  
12 lumbia in like manner, to the same extent, and with like  
13 right of appellate review, as if the State had been admitted  
14 and such State courts had been established prior to the  
15 accrual of such causes of action or the commission of such  
16 offenses.

17       (c) MAINTENANCE OF RIGHTS TO AND JURISDICTION  
18 OVER APPEALS.—

19           (1) CASES DECIDED PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—  
20 Parties shall have the same rights of appeal from  
21 and appellate review of final decisions of the United  
22 States District Court for the District of Columbia or  
23 the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in any  
24 case finally decided prior to the admission of the  
25 State into the Union, whether or not an appeal

1       therefrom shall have been perfected prior to such ad-  
2       mission. The United States Court of Appeals for the  
3       District of Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court  
4       of the United States shall have the same jurisdiction  
5       in such cases as by law provided prior to the admis-  
6       sion of the State into the Union.

7               (2) CASES DECIDED AFTER ADMISSION.—Par-  
8       ties shall have the same rights of appeal from and  
9       appellate review of all orders, judgments, and de-  
10      crees of the United States District Court for the  
11      District of Columbia and of the highest court of the  
12      State, as successor to the District of Columbia  
13      Court of Appeals, in any case pending at the time  
14      of admission of the State into the Union, and the  
15      United States Court of Appeals for the District of  
16      Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court of the  
17      United States shall have the same jurisdiction there-  
18      in, as by law provided in any case arising subsequent  
19      to the admission of the State into the Union.

20              (3) ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT MANDATES.—  
21      Any mandate issued subsequent to the admission of  
22      the State shall be to the United States District  
23      Court for the District of Columbia or a court of the  
24      State, as appropriate.

1 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO FED-  
2 ERAL COURTS.—Effective upon the admission of the State  
3 into the Union—

4 (1) section 41 of title 28, United States Code,  
5 is amended in the second column by inserting “,  
6 Washington, Douglass Commonwealth” after “Dis-  
7 trict of Columbia”; and

8 (2) the first paragraph of section 88 of title 28,  
9 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 “The District of Columbia and the State of  
11 Washington, Douglass Commonwealth comprise one  
12 judicial district.”.

13 **SEC. 124. UNITED STATES NATIONALITY.**

14 No provision of this Act shall operate to confer  
15 United States nationality, to terminate nationality lawfully  
16 acquired, or to restore nationality terminated or lost under  
17 any law of the United States or under any treaty to which  
18 the United States is or was a party.

1 **TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES**  
2 **AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL**  
3 **GOVERNMENT**

4 **SEC. 201. CONTINUATION OF REVISED DISTRICT OF CO-**  
5 **LUMBIA AS SEAT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

6 After the admission of the State into the Union, the  
7 seat of the Government of the United States shall be the  
8 District of Columbia as described in section 112.

9 **SEC. 202. TREATMENT OF MILITARY LANDS.**

10 (a) **RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—**

11 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Subject to paragraph (2)  
12 and subsection (b) and notwithstanding the admis-  
13 sion of the State into the Union, authority is re-  
14 served in the United States for the exercise by Con-  
15 gress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases  
16 whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land lo-  
17 cated within the State that, immediately prior to the  
18 admission of the State, are controlled or owned by  
19 the United States and held for defense or Coast  
20 Guard purposes.

21 (2) **LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—**The power of  
22 exclusive legislation described in paragraph (1) shall  
23 vest and remain in the United States only so long  
24 as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is

1 controlled or owned by the United States and used  
2 for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

3 (b) AUTHORITY OF STATE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority  
5 in the United States for the exercise by the Congress  
6 of the United States of the power of exclusive legis-  
7 lation over military lands under subsection (a) shall  
8 not operate to prevent such lands from being a part  
9 of the State, or to prevent the State from exercising  
10 over or upon such lands, concurrently with the  
11 United States, any jurisdiction which it would have  
12 in the absence of such reservation of authority and  
13 which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted  
14 by Congress pursuant to such reservation of author-  
15 ity.

16 (2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State shall  
17 have the right to serve civil or criminal process with-  
18 in such tracts or parcels of land in which the author-  
19 ity of the United States is reserved under subsection  
20 (a) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of  
21 rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes com-  
22 mitted within the State but outside of such tracts or  
23 parcels of land.

1 **SEC. 203. WAIVER OF CLAIMS TO FEDERAL LANDS AND**  
2 **PROPERTY.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—As a compact with the United  
4 States, the State and its people disclaim all right and title  
5 to any lands or other property not granted or confirmed  
6 to the State or its political subdivisions by or under the  
7 authority of this Act, the right or title to which is held  
8 by the United States or subject to disposition by the  
9 United States.

10 (b) **EFFECT ON CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.**—

11 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Nothing contained in this  
12 Act shall recognize, deny, enlarge, impair, or other-  
13 wise affect any claim against the United States, and  
14 any such claim shall be governed by applicable laws  
15 of the United States.

16 (2) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this  
17 Act is intended or shall be construed as a finding,  
18 interpretation, or construction by the Congress that  
19 any applicable law authorizes, establishes, recog-  
20 nizes, or confirms the validity or invalidity of any  
21 claim referred to in paragraph (1), and the deter-  
22 mination of the applicability or effect of any law to  
23 any such claim shall be unaffected by anything in  
24 this Act.

1 **SEC. 204. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN NEW**  
2 **SEAT OF GOVERNMENT TO VOTE IN FEDERAL**  
3 **ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT**  
4 **DOMICILE.**

5 (a) REQUIREMENT FOR STATES TO PERMIT INDIVID-  
6 UALS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall—

8 (A) permit absent District of Columbia  
9 voters to use absentee registration procedures  
10 and to vote by absentee ballot in general, spe-  
11 cial, primary, and runoff elections for Federal  
12 office; and

13 (B) accept and process, with respect to any  
14 general, special, primary, or runoff election for  
15 Federal office, any otherwise valid voter reg-  
16 istration application from an absent District of  
17 Columbia voter, if the application is received by  
18 the appropriate State election official not less  
19 than 30 days before the election.

20 (2) ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTER DE-  
21 FINED.—In this section, the term “absent District  
22 of Columbia voter” means, with respect to a State,  
23 a person who resides in the District of Columbia  
24 after the admission of the State of Washington, D.C.  
25 into the Union and is qualified to vote in the State  
26 (or who would be qualified to vote in the State but

1 for residing in the District of Columbia), but only if  
2 the State is the last place in which the person was  
3 domiciled before residing in the District of Colum-  
4 bia.

5 (3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
6 “State” means each of the several States, including  
7 the State of Washington, D.C.

8 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATES TO MAXIMIZE  
9 ACCESS TO POLLS BY ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
10 VOTERS.—To afford maximum access to the polls by ab-  
11 sent District of Columbia voters, it is the sense of Con-  
12 gress that the States should—

13 (1) waive registration requirements for absent  
14 District of Columbia voters who, by reason of resi-  
15 dence in the District of Columbia, do not have an  
16 opportunity to register;

17 (2) expedite processing of balloting materials  
18 with respect to such individuals; and

19 (3) assure that absentee ballots are mailed to  
20 such individuals at the earliest opportunity.

21 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney General may  
22 bring a civil action in appropriate district court of the  
23 United States for such declaratory or injunctive relief as  
24 may be necessary to carry out this section.



1 (d) EFFECT ON CERTAIN OTHER LAWS.—The exer-  
2 cise of any right under this section shall not affect, for  
3 purposes of any Federal, State, or local tax, the residence  
4 or domicile of a person exercising such right.

5 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect  
6 upon the date of the admission of the State of Wash-  
7 ington, D.C. into the Union, and shall apply with respect  
8 to elections for Federal office taking place on or after such  
9 date.

10 **SEC. 205. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION**  
11 **OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN ELECTION OF**  
12 **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 3, United  
14 States Code, is amended—

15 (1) by striking section 21; and

16 (2) in the table of sections, by striking the item  
17 relating to section 21.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
19 subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the admis-  
20 sion of the State into the Union, and shall apply to any  
21 election of the President and Vice-President of the United  
22 States taking place on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 206. EXPEDITED PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION**  
2 **OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REPEAL-**  
3 **ING 23RD AMENDMENT.**

4 (a) **JOINT RESOLUTION DESCRIBED.**—In this sec-  
5 tion, the term “joint resolution” means a joint resolu-  
6 tion—

7 (1) entitled “A joint resolution proposing an  
8 amendment to the Constitution of the United States  
9 to repeal the 23rd article of amendment”; and

10 (2) the matter after the resolving clause of  
11 which consists solely of text to amend the Constitu-  
12 tion of the United States to repeal the 23rd article  
13 of amendment to the Constitution.

14 (b) **EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REP-**  
15 **RESENTATIVES.**—

16 (1) **PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.**—Upon intro-  
17 duction in the House of Representatives, the joint  
18 resolution shall be placed immediately on the appro-  
19 priate calendar.

20 (2) **PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.**—

21 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—It shall be in order, not  
22 later than 30 legislative days after the date the  
23 joint resolution is introduced in the House of  
24 Representatives, to move to proceed to consider  
25 the joint resolution in the House of Representa-  
26 tives.

1 (B) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to pro-  
2 ceed to consider the joint resolution—

3 (i) all points of order against the mo-  
4 tion are waived;

5 (ii) such a motion shall not be in  
6 order after the House of Representatives  
7 has disposed of a motion to proceed on the  
8 joint resolution;

9 (iii) the previous question shall be  
10 considered as ordered on the motion to its  
11 adoption without intervening motion;

12 (iv) the motion shall not be debatable;  
13 and

14 (v) a motion to reconsider the vote by  
15 which the motion is disposed of shall not  
16 be in order.

17 (3) CONSIDERATION.—When the House of Rep-  
18 resentatives proceeds to consideration of the joint  
19 resolution—

20 (A) the joint resolution shall be considered  
21 as read;

22 (B) all points of order against the joint  
23 resolution and against its consideration are  
24 waived;

1           (C) the previous question shall be consid-  
2           ered as ordered on the joint resolution to its  
3           passage without intervening motion except 10  
4           hours of debate equally divided and controlled  
5           by the proponent and an opponent;

6           (D) an amendment to the joint resolution  
7           shall not be in order; and

8           (E) a motion to reconsider the vote on pas-  
9           sage of the joint resolution shall not be in  
10          order.

11       (c) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN SENATE.—

12           (1) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon intro-  
13           duction in the Senate, the joint resolution shall be  
14           placed immediately on the calendar.

15           (2) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

16           (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding rule  
17           XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is  
18           in order, not later than 30 legislative days after  
19           the date the joint resolution is introduced in the  
20           Senate (even though a previous motion to the  
21           same effect has been disagreed to) to move to  
22           proceed to the consideration of the joint resolu-  
23           tion.

1 (B) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to pro-  
 2 ceed to the consideration of the joint resolu-  
 3 tion—

4 (i) all points of order against the mo-  
 5 tion are waived;

6 (ii) the motion is not debatable;

7 (iii) the motion is not subject to a mo-  
 8 tion to postpone;

9 (iv) a motion to reconsider the vote by  
 10 which the motion is agreed to or disagreed  
 11 to shall not be in order; and

12 (v) if the motion is agreed to, the  
 13 joint resolution shall remain the unfinished  
 14 business until disposed of.

15 (3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate proceeds  
 17 to consideration of the joint resolution—

18 (i) all points of order against the joint  
 19 resolution (and against consideration of  
 20 the joint resolution) are waived;

21 (ii) consideration of the joint resolu-  
 22 tion, and all debatable motions and appeals  
 23 in connection therewith, shall be limited to  
 24 not more than 30 hours, which shall be di-

1           vided equally between the majority and mi-  
2           nority leaders or their designees;

3           (iii) a motion further to limit debate  
4           is in order and not debatable;

5           (iv) an amendment to, a motion to  
6           postpone, or a motion to commit the joint  
7           resolution is not in order; and

8           (v) a motion to proceed to the consid-  
9           eration of other business is not in order.

10           (B) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—In the Senate the  
11           vote on passage shall occur immediately fol-  
12           lowing the conclusion of the consideration of the  
13           joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the  
14           conclusion of the debate if requested in accord-  
15           ance with the rules of the Senate.

16           (C) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCE-  
17           DURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair  
18           relating to the application of this subsection or  
19           the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to  
20           the procedure relating to the joint resolution  
21           shall be decided without debate.

22           (d) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF  
23           REPRESENTATIVES.—

24           (1) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER  
25           HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of the

1 joint resolution of that House, that House receives  
2 from the other House the joint resolution—

3 (A) the joint resolution of the other House  
4 shall not be referred to a committee; and

5 (B) with respect to the joint resolution of  
6 the House receiving the resolution—

7 (i) the procedure in that House shall  
8 be the same as if no joint resolution had  
9 been received from the other House; and

10 (ii) the vote on passage shall be on  
11 the joint resolution of the other House.

12 (2) TREATMENT OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF  
13 OTHER HOUSE.—If one House fails to introduce or  
14 consider the joint resolution under this section, the  
15 joint resolution of the other House shall be entitled  
16 to expedited floor procedures under this section.

17 (3) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—  
18 If, following passage of the joint resolution in the  
19 Senate, the Senate receives the companion measure  
20 from the House of Representatives, the companion  
21 measure shall not be debatable.

22 (4) VETOES.—If the President vetoes the joint  
23 resolution, consideration of a veto message in the  
24 Senate under this section shall be not more than 10

1 hours equally divided between the majority and mi-  
2 nority leaders or their designees.

3 (e) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND  
4 SENATE.—This section is enacted by Congress—

5 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
6 the Senate and House of Representatives, respec-  
7 tively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of  
8 each House, respectively, but applicable only with re-  
9 spect to the procedure to be followed in that House  
10 in the case of the joint resolution, and supersede  
11 other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent  
12 with such rules; and

13 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional  
14 right of either House to change the rules (so far as  
15 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,  
16 in the same manner, and to the same extent as in  
17 the case of any other rule of that House.

## 18 **TITLE III—GENERAL** 19 **PROVISIONS**

### 20 **SEC. 301. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

22 (1) The term “Council” means the Council of  
23 the District of Columbia.

24 (2) The term “Governor” means the Governor  
25 of the State of Washington, D.C.



1           (3) The term “Mayor” means the Mayor of the  
2 District of Columbia.

3           (4) Except as otherwise provided, the term  
4 “State” means the State of Washington, D.C.

5           (5) The term “State Constitution” means the  
6 proposed Constitution of the State of Washington,  
7 D.C., as approved by the Council of the District of  
8 Columbia on October 18, 2016, pursuant to the  
9 Constitution and Boundaries for the State of Wash-  
10 ington, D.C. Approval Resolution of 2016 (D.C.  
11 Resolution R21–621), and ratified by District of Co-  
12 lumbia voters in Advisory Referendum B approved  
13 on November 8, 2016, and certified by the District  
14 of Columbia Board of Elections on November 18,  
15 2016.

16           (6) The term “Washington, D.C.” means  
17 Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.

18 **SEC. 302. CERTIFICATION OF ENACTMENT BY PRESIDENT.**

19           Not more than 60 days after the date of enactment  
20 of this Act, the President shall certify such enactment to  
21 the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

○