

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 317

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia into the Union.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2015

Ms. NORTON (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CHU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FARR, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LIEU of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. TAKAI, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia
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 “New Columbia 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 NEW COLUMBIA

Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

- Sec. 101. Admission into the Union.
- Sec. 102. Process for admission.
- Sec. 103. Election of officials of State.
- Sec. 104. Issuance of presidential proclamation.

Subtitle B—Description of New Columbia Territory

- Sec. 111. Territories and boundaries of New Columbia.
- 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 New Columbia

- 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 consideration of constitutional amendment.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. General definitions.

Sec. 302. Certification of enactment by President.

1 **TITLE I—STATE OF NEW**
 2 **COLUMBIA**
 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
 8 104(b), the State of New Columbia is declared to be a
 9 State of the United States of America, and is declared
 10 admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the other
 11 States in all respects whatever.

12 (b) CONSTITUTION OF STATE.—The State Constitu-
 13 tion shall always be republican in form and shall not be
 14 repugnant to the Constitution of the United States and
 15 the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

16 **SEC. 102. PROCESS FOR ADMISSION.**

17 (a) APPROVAL OF ADMISSION BY VOTERS OF DIS-
 18 TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

19 (1) ELECTION PROCEDURES.—At an election
 20 designated by proclamation of the Mayor, which may
 21 be the primary or the general election held pursuant
 22 to section 103(a), a general election, or a special
 23 election, there shall be submitted to the electors

1 qualified to vote in such election the following propo-
2 sitions for adoption or rejection:

3 “(A) New Columbia shall immediately be
4 admitted into the Union as a State.

5 “(B) The proposed Constitution for the
6 State of New Columbia, as adopted by the
7 Council of the District of Columbia pursuant to
8 the Constitution for the State of New Columbia
9 Approval Act of 1987 (D.C. Law 7–8), shall be
10 deemed ratified and shall replace the Constitu-
11 tion for the State of New Columbia ratified on
12 November 2, 1982.

13 “(C) The boundaries of the State of New
14 Columbia shall be as prescribed in the New Co-
15 lumbia Admission Act.

16 “(D) All provisions of the New Columbia
17 Admission Act, including provisions reserving
18 rights or powers to the United States and pro-
19 visions prescribing the terms or conditions of
20 the grants of lands or other property made to
21 the State of New Columbia, are consented to
22 fully by the State and its people.”.

23 (2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAYOR.—The Mayor
24 of the District of Columbia is authorized and di-
25 rected to take such action as may be necessary or

1 appropriate to ensure the submission of such propo-
2 sitions to the people. The return of the votes cast on
3 such propositions shall be made by the election offi-
4 cers directly to the Board of Elections of the Dis-
5 trict of Columbia, which shall certify the results of
6 the submission to the Mayor. The Mayor shall cer-
7 tify the results of such submission to the President
8 of the United States.

9 (b) EFFECT OF VOTE.—

10 (1) ADOPTION OF PROPOSITIONS.—In the event
11 the propositions described in subsection (a) are
12 adopted in an election under such subsection by a
13 majority of the legal votes cast on such submis-
14 sion—

15 (A) the State Constitution shall be deemed
16 ratified; and

17 (B) the President shall issue a proclama-
18 tion pursuant to section 104.

19 (2) REJECTION OF PROPOSITION.—In the event
20 any one of the propositions described in subsection
21 (a) is not adopted in an election under such sub-
22 section by a majority of the legal votes cast on such
23 submission, the provisions of this Act shall cease to
24 be effective.

1 **SEC. 103. ELECTION OF OFFICIALS OF STATE.**

2 (a) ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after
4 receiving certification of the enactment of this Act
5 from the President pursuant to section 302, the
6 Mayor of the District of Columbia shall issue a pro-
7 clamation for the first elections, subject to the provi-
8 sions of this section, for two Senators and one Rep-
9 resentative in Congress.

10 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ELECTION OF SEN-
11 ATORS.—In the election of Senators from the State
12 pursuant to paragraph (1), the 2 Senate offices shall
13 be separately identified and designated, and no per-
14 son may be a candidate for both offices. No such
15 identification or designation of either of the offices
16 shall refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of
17 such offices, or in any way impair the privilege of
18 the Senate to determine the class to which each of
19 the Senators elected shall be assigned.

20 (b) RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The proclamation of the
22 Mayor issued under subsection (a) shall provide for
23 the holding of a primary election and a general elec-
24 tion and at such elections the officers required to be
25 elected as provided in subsection (a) shall be chosen

1 by the qualified electors of the District of Columbia
2 in the manner required by law.

3 (2) CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS.—Election re-
4 turns shall be made and certified in the manner re-
5 quired by law, except that the Mayor shall also cer-
6 tify the results of such elections to the President of
7 the United States.

8 (c) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Upon the admission
9 of the State into the Union, the Senators and Representa-
10 tive elected at the election described in subsection (a) shall
11 be entitled to be admitted to seats in Congress and to all
12 the rights and privileges of Senators and Representatives
13 of other States in the Congress of the United States.

14 (d) TRANSFER OF OFFICES OF MAYOR AND MEM-
15 BERS AND CHAIR OF COUNCIL.—Upon the admission of
16 the State into the Union, the Mayor, members of the
17 Council, and the Chair of the Council at the time of admis-
18 sion shall be deemed the Governor, members of the House
19 of Delegates, and the President of the House of Delegates
20 of the State, respectively, as provided by the State Con-
21 stitution and the laws of the State.

22 (e) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY AND DUTIES AND
23 JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—Upon the admis-
24 sion of the State into the Union, members of executive
25 and judicial offices of the District of Columbia shall be

1 deemed members of the respective executive and judicial
2 offices of the State, as provided by the State Constitution
3 and the laws of the State.

4 (f) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
5 TIVES MEMBERSHIP.—The State upon its admission into
6 the Union shall be entitled to one Representative until the
7 taking effect of the next reapportionment, and such Rep-
8 resentative shall be in addition to the membership of the
9 House of Representatives as now prescribed by law, except
10 that such temporary increase in the membership shall not
11 operate to either increase or decrease the permanent mem-
12 bership of the House of Representatives or affect the basis
13 of apportionment for the Congress.

14 **SEC. 104. ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the President finds that the
16 propositions set forth in section 102(a) have been duly
17 adopted by the people of the State, the President, upon
18 certification of the returns of the election of the officers
19 required to be elected as provided in section 103(a), shall,
20 not later than 90 days after receiving such certification,
21 issue a proclamation announcing the results of such elec-
22 tions as so ascertained.

23 (b) ADMISSION OF STATE UPON ISSUANCE OF PROC-
24 LAMATION.—Upon the issuance of the proclamation by the

1 President under subsection (a), the State shall be deemed
2 admitted into the Union as provided in section 101.

3 **Subtitle B—Description of New**
4 **Columbia Territory**

5 **SEC. 111. TERRITORIES AND BOUNDARIES OF NEW COLUM-**
6 **BIA.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection
8 (b), the State shall consist of all of the territory of the
9 District of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of
10 this Act, subject to the results of the technical survey con-
11 ducted under subsection (c).

12 (b) **EXCLUSION OF PORTION OF DISTRICT OF CO-**
13 **LUMBIA REMAINING AS NATIONAL CAPITAL.**—The terri-
14 tory of the State shall not include the area described in
15 section 112, which shall remain as the District of Colum-
16 bia for purposes of serving as the seat of the government
17 of the United States.

18 (c) **TECHNICAL SURVEY.**—Not later than 6 months
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President
20 (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital
21 Planning Commission) shall conduct a technical survey of
22 the metes and bounds of the District of Columbia and of
23 the territory described in section 112(b).

1 **SEC. 112. DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AFTER**
2 **ADMISSION OF STATE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the succeeding provi-
4 sions of this section, after the admission of the State into
5 the Union, the District of Columbia shall consist of the
6 property described in subsection (b) and shall include the
7 principal Federal monuments, the White House, the Cap-
8 itol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building,
9 and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office
10 buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the Capitol
11 Building.

12 (b) SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF METES AND
13 BOUNDS.—After the admission of the State into the
14 Union, the specific metes and bounds of the District of
15 Columbia shall be as follows:

16 Beginning at the point on the present Virginia-
17 District of Columbia boundary due west of the
18 northernmost point of Theodore Roosevelt Island
19 and running due east of the eastern shore of the Po-
20 tomac River;

21 thence generally south along the shore at the
22 mean high water mark to the northwest corner of
23 the Kennedy Center;

24 thence east along the north side of the Kennedy
25 Center to a point where it reaches the E Street Ex-
26 pressway;

1 thence east on the expressway to E Street
2 Northwest and thence east on E Street Northwest to
3 Eighteenth Street Northwest;

4 thence south on Eighteenth Street Northwest to
5 Constitution Avenue Northwest;

6 thence east on Constitution Avenue to Seven-
7 teenth Street Northwest;

8 thence north on Seventeenth Street Northwest
9 to Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;

10 thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue to Jackson
11 Place Northwest; thence north on Jackson Place to
12 H Street Northwest;

13 thence east on H Street Northwest to Madison
14 Place Northwest;

15 thence south on Madison Place Northwest to
16 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;

17 thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
18 to Fifteenth Street Northwest;

19 thence south on Fifteenth Street Northwest to
20 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;

21 thence southeast on Pennsylvania Avenue
22 Northwest to John Marshall Place Northwest;

23 thence north on John Marshall Place Northwest
24 to C Street Northwest;

1 thence east on C Street Northwest to Third
2 Street Northwest;

3 thence north on Third Street Northwest to D
4 Street Northwest;

5 thence east on D Street Northwest to Second
6 Street Northwest;

7 thence south on Second Street Northwest to the
8 intersection of Constitution Avenue Northwest and
9 Louisiana Avenue Northwest;

10 thence northeast on Louisiana Avenue North-
11 west to North Capitol Street;

12 thence north on North Capitol Street to Massa-
13 chusetts Avenue Northwest;

14 thence southeast on Massachusetts Avenue
15 Northwest so as to encompass Union Square;

16 thence following Union Square to F Street
17 Northeast;

18 thence east on F Street Northeast to Second
19 Street Northeast;

20 thence south on Second Street Northeast to D
21 Street Northeast;

22 thence west on D Street Northeast to First
23 Street Northeast;

24 thence south on First Street Northeast to
25 Maryland Avenue Northeast;

1 thence generally north and east on Maryland
2 Avenue to Second Street Northeast;
3 thence south on Second Street Northeast to C
4 Street Southeast;
5 thence west on C Street Southeast to New Jer-
6 sey Avenue Southeast;
7 thence south on New Jersey Avenue Southeast
8 to D Street Southeast;
9 thence west on D Street Southeast to Wash-
10 ington Avenue Southwest;
11 thence southeast on Washington Avenue South-
12 west to E Street Southeast;
13 thence west on E Street Southeast to the inter-
14 section of Washington Avenue Southwest and South
15 Capitol Street;
16 thence northwest on Washington Avenue South-
17 west to Second Street Southwest;
18 thence south on Second Street Southwest to
19 Virginia Avenue Southwest;
20 thence generally west on Virginia Avenue to
21 Third Street Southwest;
22 thence north on Third Street Southwest to C
23 Street Southwest;
24 thence west on C Street Southwest to Sixth
25 Street Southwest;

1 thence north on Sixth Street Southwest to Inde-
2 pendence Avenue;

3 thence west on Independence Avenue to Twelfth
4 Street Southwest;

5 thence south on Twelfth Street Southwest to D
6 Street Southwest;

7 thence west on D Street Southwest to Four-
8 teenth Street Southwest;

9 thence south on Fourteenth Street Southwest to
10 the middle of the Washington Channel;

11 thence generally south and east along the
12 midchannel of the Washington Channel to a point
13 due west of the northern boundary line of Fort Les-
14 ley McNair;

15 thence due east to the side of the Washington
16 Channel;

17 thence following generally south and east along
18 the side of the Washington Channel at the mean
19 high water mark, to the point of confluence with the
20 Anacostia River, and along the northern shore at the
21 mean high water mark to the northernmost point of
22 the Eleventh Street Bridge;

23 thence generally south and east along the
24 northern side of the Eleventh Street Bridge to the
25 eastern shore of the Anacostia River;

1 thence generally south and west along such
2 shore at the mean high water mark to the point of
3 confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers;

4 thence generally south along the eastern shore
5 at the mean high water mark of the Potomac River
6 to the point where it meets the present southeastern
7 boundary line of the District of Columbia;

8 thence south and west along such southeastern
9 boundary line to the point where it meets the
10 present Virginia-District of Columbia boundary; and

11 thence generally north and west up the Poto-
12 mac River along the present Virginia-District of Co-
13 lumbia boundary to the point of beginning.

14 (c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.—

15 (1) STREETS AND SIDEWALKS BOUNDING
16 AREA.—After the admission of the State into the
17 Union, the District of Columbia shall be deemed to
18 include any street (together with any sidewalk there-
19 of) bounding the District of Columbia.

20 (2) EXCLUSION OF DISTRICT BUILDING.—Not-
21 withstanding any other provision of this section, the
22 District of Columbia shall not be considered to in-
23 clude the District Building after the admission of
24 the State into the Union.

1 ginia with the District of Columbia after the admis-
2 sion of the State into the Union.

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

9 **Subtitle C—General Provisions**
10 **Relating to Laws of New Columbia**

11 **SEC. 121. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF STATE TO TAX**
12 **FEDERAL PROPERTY.**

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

16 **SEC. 122. EFFECT OF ADMISSION OF STATE ON CURRENT**
17 **LAWS.**

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

24 (b) TREATMENT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—To the extent
25 that any law of the United States applies to the States

1 generally, the law shall have the same force and effect
2 within the State as elsewhere in the United States, except
3 as such law may otherwise provide.

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

5 (a) PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—

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

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

1 such appropriate State courts and shall be proceeded
2 with therein in due course of law.

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

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

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

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

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

19 (3) ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT MANDATES.—
20 Any mandate issued subsequent to the admission of
21 the State shall be to the United States District
22 Court for the District of Columbia or a court of the
23 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 New Columbia” after “District of Columbia”; and

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

9 “The District of Columbia and the State of
10 New Columbia comprise one judicial district.”.

11 **SEC. 124. UNITED STATES NATIONALITY.**

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

17 **TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES**
18 **AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL**
19 **GOVERNMENT**

20 **SEC. 201. CONTINUATION OF REVISED DISTRICT OF CO-**
21 **LUMBIA AS SEAT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

22 After the admission of the State into the Union, the
23 seat of the Government of the United States shall be the
24 District of Columbia as described in section 112 (also
25 known as “Washington, DC”).

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

2 (a) RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)
4 and subsection (b) and notwithstanding the admis-
5 sion of the State into the Union, authority is re-
6 served in the United States for the exercise by Con-
7 gress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases
8 whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land lo-
9 cated within the State that, immediately prior to the
10 admission of the State, are controlled or owned by
11 the United States and held for defense or Coast
12 Guard purposes.

13 (2) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The power of
14 exclusive legislation described in paragraph (1) shall
15 vest and remain in the United States only so long
16 as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is
17 controlled or owned by the United States and used
18 for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

19 (b) AUTHORITY OF STATE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority
21 in the United States for the exercise by the Congress
22 of the United States of the power of exclusive legis-
23 lation over military lands under subsection (a) shall
24 not operate to prevent such lands from being a part
25 of the State, or to prevent the State from exercising
26 over or upon such lands, concurrently with the

1 United States, any jurisdiction which it would have
2 in the absence of such reservation of authority and
3 which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted
4 by Congress pursuant to such reservation of author-
5 ity.

6 (2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State shall
7 have the right to serve civil or criminal process with-
8 in such tracts or parcels of land in which the author-
9 ity of the United States is reserved under subsection
10 (a) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of
11 rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes com-
12 mitted within the State but outside of such tracts or
13 parcels of land.

14 **SEC. 203. WAIVER OF CLAIMS TO FEDERAL LANDS AND**
15 **PROPERTY.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—As a compact with the United
17 States, the State and its people disclaim all right and title
18 to any lands or other property not granted or confirmed
19 to the State or its political subdivisions by or under the
20 authority of this Act, the right or title to which is held
21 by the United States or subject to disposition by the
22 United States.

23 (b) EFFECT ON CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing contained in this
25 Act shall recognize, deny, enlarge, impair, or other-

1 wise affect any claim against the United States, and
2 any such claim shall be governed by applicable laws
3 of the United States.

4 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
5 Act is intended or shall be construed as a finding,
6 interpretation, or construction by the Congress that
7 any applicable law authorizes, establishes, recog-
8 nizes, or confirms the validity or invalidity of any
9 claim referred to in paragraph (1), and the deter-
10 mination of the applicability or effect of any law to
11 any such claim shall be unaffected by anything in
12 this Act.

13 **SEC. 204. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN NEW**
14 **SEAT OF GOVERNMENT TO VOTE IN FEDERAL**
15 **ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT**
16 **DOMICILE.**

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

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall—

20 (A) permit absent District of Columbia
21 voters to use absentee registration procedures
22 and to vote by absentee ballot in general, spe-
23 cial, primary, and runoff elections for Federal
24 office; and

1 (B) accept and process, with respect to any
2 general, special, primary, or runoff election for
3 Federal office, any otherwise valid voter reg-
4 istration application from an absent District of
5 Columbia voter, if the application is received by
6 the appropriate State election official not less
7 than 30 days before the election.

8 (2) ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTER DE-
9 FINED.—In this section, the term “absent District
10 of Columbia voter” means, with respect to a State,
11 a person who resides in the District of Columbia
12 after the admission of the State of New Columbia
13 into the Union and is qualified to vote in the State
14 (or who would be qualified to vote in the State but
15 for residing in the District of Columbia), but only if
16 the State is the last place in which the person was
17 domiciled before residing in the District of Colum-
18 bia.

19 (3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term
20 “State” means each of the several States, including
21 the State of New Columbia.

22 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATES TO MAXIMIZE
23 ACCESS TO POLLS BY ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
24 VOTERS.—To afford maximum access to the polls by ab-

1 sent District of Columbia voters, it is recommended that
2 the States—

3 (1) waive registration requirements for absent
4 District of Columbia voters who, by reason of resi-
5 dence in the District of Columbia, do not have an
6 opportunity to register;

7 (2) expedite processing of balloting materials
8 with respect to such individuals; and

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

11 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney General may
12 bring a civil action in appropriate district court for such
13 declaratory or injunctive relief as may be necessary to
14 carry out this section.

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

19 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
20 upon the date of the admission of the State into the
21 Union, and shall apply with respect to elections for Fed-
22 eral office taking place on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 205. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION**
2 **OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN ELECTION OF**
3 **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title 3, United States Code, is
5 amended by striking section 21.

6 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
7 subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the admis-
8 sion of the State into the Union, and shall apply to any
9 election of the President and Vice-President of the United
10 States taking place on or after such date.

11 **SEC. 206. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITU-**
12 **TIONAL AMENDMENT.**

13 (a) **EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**—This
14 section is enacted by Congress—

15 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
16 the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-
17 spectively, and as such these provisions are deemed
18 a part of the rule of each House, respectively, but
19 applicable only with respect to the procedure to be
20 followed in that House in the case of a joint resolu-
21 tion described in subsection (b), and they supersede
22 other rules only to the extent that they are incon-
23 sistent therewith; and

24 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
25 right of either House to change the rule (so far as
26 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,

1 in the same manner and to the same extent as in
2 the case of any other rule of that House.

3 (b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF REPEAL OF
4 23RD AMENDMENT.—

5 (1) MOTION MADE IN ORDER.—At any time
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, it shall
7 be in order in either the House of Representatives
8 or the Senate to offer a motion to proceed to the
9 consideration of a joint resolution proposing an
10 amendment to the Constitution of the United States
11 repealing the 23rd article of amendment to the Con-
12 stitution.

13 (2) PROCEDURES RELATING TO MOTION.—With
14 respect to the motion described in paragraph (1),
15 the following rules shall apply:

16 (A) The motion is highly privileged and is
17 not debatable.

18 (B) An amendment to the motion is not in
19 order, and it is not in order to move to recon-
20 sider the vote by which the motion is agreed to
21 or disagreed to.

22 (C) A motion to postpone shall be decided
23 without debate.

1 **TITLE III—GENERAL**
2 **PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 301. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

5 (1) The term “Council” means the Council of
6 the District of Columbia.

7 (2) The term “Governor” means the Governor
8 of the State of New Columbia.

9 (3) The term “Mayor” means the Mayor of the
10 District of Columbia.

11 (4) The term “State Constitution” means the
12 constitution of the State of New Columbia, as adopt-
13 ed by the Council of the District of Columbia in the
14 Constitution for the State of New Columbia Ap-
15 proval Act of 1987 (D.C. Law 7–8).

16 (5) Except as otherwise provided, the term
17 “State” means the State of New Columbia.

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.

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