

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 978

Recognizing on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, the denial of full participation in their Government through statehood by active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families who are residents of the District of Columbia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2020

Ms. NORTON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

RESOLUTION

Recognizing on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, the denial of full participation in their Government through statehood by active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families who are residents of the District of Columbia.

Whereas on the last Monday of May, our Nation observes Memorial Day, a Federal holiday commemorating the men and women who died in the service of their country;

Whereas the service and sacrifice of active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families are unparalleled;

Whereas a voluntary military gives the American people the privilege and honor of being protected by active duty

servicemembers, National Guard members, and reservists, instead of through use of conscription;

Whereas active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, and veterans have risked life and limb to protect the American people and uphold the rights and freedoms of the people of the United States;

Whereas approximately 30,000 veterans are residents of the District of Columbia and do not have voting rights and full representation in the Congress of the United States or full self-governance in the District of Columbia;

Whereas residents of the District of Columbia fought in the Revolutionary War, which resulted in the creation of the United States, under the slogan of “no taxation without representation”, and have served in every war since;

Whereas 635 District of Columbia residents were casualties of World War I, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 3 different States during that war;

Whereas 3,575 District of Columbia residents were casualties of World War II, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 4 different States during that war;

Whereas 547 District of Columbia residents were casualties of the Korean war, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 8 different States during that war;

Whereas 243 District of Columbia residents were casualties of the Vietnam war, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 10 different States during that war;

Whereas almost 200,000 District of Columbia residents have served in the military since World War I;

Whereas Congress should pass the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, which would grant full and equal voting rep-

resentation, as well as democratic control over local affairs, to the residents of the District of Columbia by making Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, the 51st State; and

Whereas the Washington, D.C. Admission Act has a record 223 cosponsors in the House and a record 35 cosponsors in the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) District of Columbia residents have earned
3 full and equal representation in the United States
4 House of Representatives and United States Senate;
5 and

6 (2) on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, the House
7 of Representatives recognizes that active duty
8 servicemembers, National Guard members, reserv-
9 ists, veterans, and their families who are residents of
10 the District of Columbia deserve passage of the
11 Washington, D.C. Admission Act by the House of
12 Representatives in 2020.

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