

INTRODUCTION OF THE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Washington, D.C. Admission Act with 156 original cosponsors, a record number. This is the most important bill I introduce each Congress. District of Columbia residents have always been citizens of the United States, ranking number one in federal taxes per capita that support the federal government, but are the only federal income tax-paying Americans who do not have full and equal citizenship rights. The denial of local control of local matters and of equal representation in the Congress can be remedied only by statehood.

Therefore, I am introducing the Washington, D.C. Admission Act to create a state from essentially the eight home-town wards of the District. This 51st state, of course, would have no jurisdiction over the federal enclave that now consists of the Washington that Members of Congress and visitors associate with the capital of our country. The U.S. Capitol Complex, the principal federal monuments, federal buildings and grounds, the National Mall, the White House, and other federal property here would remain under federal jurisdiction. Our bill provides that the State of Washington, D.C. would be equal to the other 50 states in all respects, as is always required, and that the residents of Washington, D.C. would have all the rights of citizenship, including two senators and, initially, one House member. The District recognizes that it can enter the Union only on an equal basis, and is prepared to do so.

A substantially similar version of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act was the first bill I introduced after I was first sworn in as a Member of Congress in the 102nd Congress in 1991. Our first try for statehood received significant support in the House. In 1993, we got the first and only vote on statehood for the District, with nearly 60 percent of Democrats and one Republican voting for the bill. The Senate held a hearing on various approaches to representation, but the committee of jurisdiction did not proceed further. In the 113th Congress, our statehood bill got unprecedented momentum with the Senate's first-ever hearing on statehood, which was the first congressional hearing held on statehood in more than 20 years, since the House held its hearing on statehood in 1993, and obtained a record number of cosponsors in the House and Senate, including then-Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, as well as the other top three Democratic leaders in the Senate. In addition, then-President Obama endorsed D.C. statehood in a public forum before the statehood hearing was held. In the 115th Congress, not only was there a record number of original cosponsors in the House (116) and Senate (18), but also a record number of cosponsors in the House (181) and Senate (30).

Statehood is the only solution for full and equal citizenship rights for residents of the District. To be content with less than statehood is to concede the equality of citizenship that is the birthright of our residents as citizens of the United States. That is a conces-

sion no American citizen has ever made, and one that D.C. residents will not make as they approach the 218th year in their fight for equal treatment in their country. This bill reaffirms our determination to obtain each and every right enjoyed by citizens of the United States, by becoming the 51st State in the Union.

Since the founding of the nation, District residents have always carried all the obligations of citizenship, including serving in all of the nation's wars and payment of federal taxes, all without voting representation on the floor in either house of Congress or freedom from congressional interference in purely local matters.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. JOHNNIE LEE  
BROWN COLLIER

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated woman of God, great wife, steadfast mother, and friend of longstanding, Mrs. Johnnie Lee Brown Collier. Sadly, Mrs. Collier passed away on December 27, 2018. Her funeral service will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 11 am at the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Mrs. Johnnie Lee Brown Collier was born on October 22, 1926, in Columbus, Georgia to the union of Cleola Daniel Brown and Daniel Brown, Sr. She gave her life to Christ and was baptized at an early age at Rosehill Memorial Baptist Church. From that time on, God continued to be the center of her life until her passing. She served as the Sunday School Superintendent and Church Clerk at Rosehill before moving her membership to the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in 1957. Her first pastor at Fourth Street was the late Reverend Henry Harris. Mrs. Collier paved the way for others as she was the first Church Secretary at Fourth Street. She was a natural and gifted leader as she served in a variety of leadership positions at Fourth Street to include the Deacon's Wives (she served as Chairperson for two terms), Pi Com Community Leader in Zebulon Community, Women's Day Speaker, 1961, Chairperson of Program and Pastoral Relations Committee, and was the Roast and Toast Honoree in 1996.

Mrs. Collier was the epitome of a great wife and mother. She married the late Deacon Samuel Lee Collier on April 26, 1950. God blessed this union for 34 years until Deacon Collier's untimely death on May 27, 1984. Six children were born to this union to include two sets of twins out: Bernice Collier Collins, Bernard Collier (deceased), Agnes Collier Averett, Samuel Lee Collier, Jr., Michelle Collier McLain, and Michael Collier. Fred Rogers once said that, "It's not so much what you have in life that matters, It's what we do with what we have." Mrs. Collier did a lot for others with what she had. In addition to her own children, she served as a mother figure to her siblings and countless others she found in need of guidance and a helping hand.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that, "Service is the rent that we

pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Mrs. Collier paid her rent and she paid it well. She served in a variety of community organizations to include: Electric City Chapter 482 of the Order of the Eastern Stars (Worthy Matron), Spencer High Alumni (Class of 1943), and she was a Muscogee County Board of Elections Voting Precinct Manager and she traveled to various state conventions to further her knowledge of the voting process. She was also an entrepreneur and a photographer. Her professional career took her to the Medical Center, the Area Mental Health Clinic, and the Enrichment Services Program. Her benevolence extended throughout the community and she often used her influence and networking to help others to find gainful employment.

Madam Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 constituents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, salute and honor the life of Mrs. Johnnie Lee Brown Collier. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Mrs. Collier's family during this time of bereavement. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF JOHN TANNER  
FAIRNESS AND INDEPENDENCE  
IN REDISTRICTING ACT

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the John Tanner Fairness and Independence in Redistricting Act, a bill I introduced today.

In most states, districts are drawn by the state legislature, and as a result, whichever party controls the state legislature ends up drawing Congressional districts specifically designed to maximize the number of Congressional seats that party can win.

In other words, the elected officials choose the voters, instead of the voters choosing the elected officials.

If enacted, the John Tanner Fairness and Independence in Redistricting Act would fix this by requiring states to use bipartisan redistricting commissions to draw maps. No single party would get to control the process.

Historically, both parties have engaged in gerrymandering to some extent or another. But that does not make it right.

In a representative democracy, the people need to be able to freely and fairly choose their elected representatives.

Unfortunately, that is not always happening. This is not what the Founders envisioned. They designed the House of Representatives to be the Congressional chamber that most accurately reflects the views of the people.

The failure of the House to more accurately reflect the will of the electorate is a formula for the electorate to lose faith in the institution. It makes people cynical and discourages them from participating.

We can do better.

A democracy is supposed to be marketplace of ideas. The playing field is supposed to be fair and competitive, not gerrymandered and monopolized.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and help restore some much needed faith in Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF PETER  
CARNES

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Chief Peter Carnes, the Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety at Stonehill College.

Chief Carnes has devoted his life to serving and protecting the people and communities across Massachusetts. He began his illustrious career with the Wenham Police Department in 1973. Chief Carnes progressed through the ranks, becoming Wenham's chief of police.

In 1995, Chief Carnes took on the task of heading up Cape Cod's third largest Police Department as Yarmouth's Chief of Police. He brought considerable positive change to the department during his time there. His citizen's police academy and Adopt-A-School programs played an essential role in bringing together the police department and the community through education. Beyond a career serving others, Chief Carnes still calls Cape Cod home, living in Yarmouth with his wife Karen and their son.

Chief Carnes took up his current post as Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety at Stonehill College in 2008. He has embraced a proactive approach to safety and policing, engaging with and learning from the communities he serves. Chief Carnes' innovative approach to policing has continued to put him at the forefront of his field.

Unrelenting in his commitment to advancing the cause of policing and its principles, in addition to serving faithfully as Chief of Police at the Wenham, Yarmouth, and Stonehill police departments, Chief Carnes has led many of Massachusetts' most prodigious non-departmental policing bodies. He served as the President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, The Essex County Chiefs of Police Association and the Cape Cod Chiefs Council. Chief Carnes' preeminence has allowed him to spread his community centered brand of policing to departments across Massachusetts. He has repeatedly exemplified the highest ideals of his profession throughout his years of leadership.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Chief Peter Carnes and his commitment to ensuring the safety of our community. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his hard work and dedication as he celebrates his retirement.

ENERGY AND WATER RESEARCH  
INTEGRATION ACT OF 2019

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Energy and Water Research Integration Act of 2019.

I first want to thank my friend, Mr. LUCAS, for joining me in introducing this legislation, which calls attention to the critical link between energy and water and instructs the Department of Energy to ensure due consideration of water issues in its research, development, and demonstration programs.

As we all know, especially those of us who represent Texas, Oklahoma, and other southwestern and western states, water is a very valuable and at times rare commodity nowadays. We have experienced crippling droughts in recent years, so it is vital that we do as much as possible to use this commodity wisely. However, not many people are aware of the importance of water to energy generation and, similarly, the crucial role that energy plays in the delivery of safe, sanitary water to our constituents.

The Energy and Water Research Integration Act is a proactive measure that takes into account recent studies produced by the Department of Energy and the Electric Power Research Institute, both of which have highlighted how closely connected energy production and water usage are. This bill encourages research into energy technologies that would improve and minimize the use of water in energy production, and also establishes a mechanism for federal agencies to work with state and local governments and other stakeholders to advance our understanding of what is known as the "energy-water nexus." In addition, the bill requires a regularly updated strategic plan to guide these efforts. These provisions are important, positive steps towards using our limited resources in the most efficient and effective way possible.

I would like to commend the Department of Energy for taking substantive action on this issue under the leadership of former Secretary Moniz and more recently under Secretary Perry. This bill will ensure that activities to address the energy-water nexus remain a priority within the Department, and provide additional tools to better guide these efforts well into the future.

The legislation Mr. LUCAS and I are introducing is a constructive, bipartisan measure and I urge all of my colleagues to support it. Working together, I hope that we can demonstrate a strong, sustained commitment to research and development in this vital area.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPASSIONATE ACCESS, RESEARCH EXPANSION AND RESPECT STATES (CARERS) ACT

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Compassionate Access, Research Expansion and Respect States Act, also known as the CARERS Act. This bipartisan bill would allow states to set their own policies on medical marijuana, allow states to import cannabidiol to treat patients with seizures, give the Veterans Administration physicians the ability to recommend medical marijuana to patients and improve opportunities for research on marijuana.

The consensus on medical marijuana is already overwhelming and continues to build.

According to a Quinnipiac University poll, 93 percent of Americans believe people should be allowed to use medically prescribed marijuana.

93 percent of Americans rarely agree on anything.

In November, Missouri and Utah joined a growing majority of states that have legalized medical marijuana. Thirty-two states plus the District of Columbia have approved medical marijuana.

Yet, our federal laws continue to treat patients and the doctors and families who care for them like criminals.

It is long overdue for our federal law to reflect the common sense views of 93 percent of Americans and stop adding to the suffering of those with horrible illnesses.

One such patient was my constituent, Chloe Grauer. At 3 years old, Chloe suffered from a rare neurological disease that caused her to have 100 to 200 seizures a day. She tried dozens of medications and underwent surgical procedures but nothing stopped the seizures.

Her family tried desperately to treat her with cannabidiol—also known as "Charlotte's Web" or "CBD" for short—which has been shown to treat certain diseases that cause seizures, such as the disease from which Chloe suffered. CBD is derived from cannabis plants, and even though it contains just trace amounts of the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana—nowhere near enough to produce a high—but it is currently illegal under federal law. Even this tiny amount of the ingredient, THC, was enough for the federal government to keep a potentially life-saving drug away from Chloe.

Chloe died without receiving CBD.

This should never have happened. We must ensure that this never happens again.

Just as our children deserve to be treated compassionately, so, too, do our veterans. Federal law currently prohibits VA doctors from prescribing medical marijuana when they feel it is medically beneficial. Our veterans deserve the best medical advice from their doctors, not arbitrary limits on what their doctors can do to help them. Veterans are tough. They can handle frank advice from their doctors.

I want to thank my colleague DON YOUNG of Alaska, for his partnership on this bill as well as Senator CORY BOOKER and the bipartisan coalition he is leading in the Senate on these issues. I urge both the House and Senate to pass this swiftly.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER IN-LIEU AND TREATY FISHING ACCESS SITES IMPROVEMENT ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 3, 2019*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today, I am once again reintroducing the Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act. Last Congress we came so close to making this bill into law—passing it in the Senate and reporting it out of the House Natural Resources Committee. I am committed to finally passing this bill to improve the living conditions at the 31