

The first African American Naval Academy graduate, born here in the District of Columbia; and

The first African American Air Force Academy graduate, born in the District of Columbia.

I cite these African Americans because the District was a segregated city as well. With segregation and no vote, you see African Americans distinguishing themselves in the Armed Forces of the United States, fighting for their country.

So we move forward to today, and we see great progress on our statehood bill. Every Democratic Senator now backs the findings of H.R. 1.

H.R. 1 is a democracy bill. It calls for many kinds of improvements in democracy, and in that bill is included findings that lay out the case for D.C. statehood. That means that those who have voted for H.R. 1 here in the House have also voted to approve statehood.

The Senate has a similar bill, but with only three sections. It is Leader Chuck Schumer's bill. Their proposals are not as fulsome as H.R. 1, but has three major components: restoring the Voting Rights Act; establishing national automatic voter registration laws; and, yes, D.C. statehood.

D.C. statehood, for Democratic Senators, ranks just that high, along with the national voting rights bills cited. In both of our Chambers, Speaker NANCY PELOSI and Minority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER have been full-throated supporters of D.C. statehood.

We are taking two paths to statehood, however, because so much of home rule remains unfinished. Most of home rule is done, but I think most Americans would be amazed to find out how much is not done.

For example, the District's budget still has to come to the House of Representatives. We can get budget autonomy by vote of the House and the Senate without going all the way to statehood.

Or, take a life-and-death matter. We are now in the midst of climate change with all kinds of weather we had not seen. If there are floods in the District of Columbia or hurricanes, the District of Columbia cannot call out its own D.C. National Guard. It has got to go to the President of the United States to ask him to call out the D.C. National Guard.

For goodness' sake, by the time it goes up the chain of command, half of D.C. could be blown away. That is life and death. That is what every single State has, and D.C. can get that without statehood.

So, while we recognize that in order to get statehood we would have a tough time in the Senate, we also rely on making sure that we complete home rule with matters having to do with the District of Columbia as another way to move toward getting more of our rights.

Now, again, I don't want to leave the impression that because I don't have the final vote on the House floor I just

can't get anything done. I have passed three laws—the third month of Congress, going into the fourth month—already, without being able to vote for those bills.

And, I must say, I am very humbled, but I also am proud at the same time, that the organization that ranks Members of Congress has ranked me as the most effective Democrat in the Congress, and that is without having a vote.

To quote them, they said: The Center defines legislative effectiveness as the “proven ability to advance a Member's agenda items through the legislative process and into law.” That means passing bills. And it went on to say that Norton's ranking is “noteworthy because she is a nonvoting Member.”

I point that out because I don't want my residents, especially, to hear me here on the floor indicating how important statehood is to then say: Well, I don't guess ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON can do anything for us until she finally gets statehood.

I point out that I will be measured not by whether I got statehood. I may not get it. I will be measured by what I was able to get for the District of Columbia, whose residents voted for me to come to Congress.

Yes, only statehood can give the District the bucket of rights, the full bucket it is entitled to. Only statehood can make the District fully equal to the residents of the States. Only statehood can mean for the District what it means for the smallest States, that you can have two Senators as well as a Member of the House.

The District of Columbia has no Senators, so I have to do the work of both Houses. That is not how it is supposed to work.

So, instead of being disheartened, I am, indeed, elated that we already have 202 sponsors, or cosponsors, for D.C. statehood. It takes 218 to pass the bill.

People rushed onto the bill because of the knowledge that there is something wrong that there are people in our country who do not have the same rights that others have, and for no good reason.

If you were to ask people, “Well, why not?” today they would not be able to tell you. Without going into elaborate detail, I will tell you that it was a fluke that the District does not have full rights, a fluke having to do with a mishap or an incident when the Capitol was in Philadelphia and the troops from the Revolutionary War marched on the then-Capitol demanding their pensions.

The Framers were caught flat-footed and said: Oh, my goodness. We better make sure that the Capitol is not part of any State, and this is part of Pennsylvania.

Well, of course, we know that that was cured long ago. The District should not be part of any State, doesn't want to be part of any State, but there are plenty of armed troops to protect the

District from people marching on the District or the Capitol for their pensions or any other rights.

I am grateful to represent the District of Columbia. I am grateful because I love a good fight. I loved it as a kid in the civil rights movement. I loved it when I grew up in the District of Columbia, going to segregated schools and recognizing that all I had to do was get a good education and I could get out of that too.

But I take it as an honor and a privilege to represent residents who, in each and every way, are fully equal to each and every American and to do all that I possibly can to make that feeling reality in the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 7.—Joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 9 a.m.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

U.S. CONGRESS,
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS,
April 9, 2019, Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Section 303(a) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (CAA), 2 U.S.C. 1383(a), provides that the Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights “shall, subject to the approval of its Board of Directors, adopt rules governing the procedures of the Office, including the procedures of hearing officers, which shall be submitted for publication in the Congressional Record. The rules may be amended in the same manner.” Section 303(b) of the Act, 2 U.S.C. 1383(b), further provides that the Executive Director “shall publish a general notice of proposed rulemaking” and “shall transmit such notice to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for publication in the Congressional Record on the first day of which both Houses are in session following such transmittal.”

Having obtained the approval of the Board, I am transmitting the attached notice of proposed procedural rulemaking to the Speaker of the House. I request that this notice be published in the section of the Congressional Record for the House of Representatives on the first day on which both Houses are in session following the receipt of this transmittal. In compliance with section