

her jurisdiction is on police crime here in the District of Columbia. She should be appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia. At the same time we are going for statehood, we will have a bill on this floor for a local prosecutor.

We will have a bill allowing the Mayor to deploy the National Guard. We see what is happening with climate change, and every jurisdiction is on the lookout to prepare itself for whatever may come. The D.C. National Guard would be our last refuge.

Unlike the Guard in the States and even in the territories, the District's Mayor or chief executive has no authority to call out the National Guard if there is a hurricane or if there is a flood, so she has got to somehow find her way up the chain of command to the President to say: "Please, Mr. President, can I call out my own National Guard?"

The National Guard of the District of Columbia helps us in a multitude of ways; but in the way that could count most, there would be a delay because the District doesn't have the authority to call out its own National Guard. We want that even before statehood. We want that now.

We don't have control over our local courts. These courts don't have anything to do with the Federal Government. That authority should be with the D.C. Council.

There are many more. But to point out the ridiculous nature of not, in fact, having even rights that Americans take for granted—leave aside, if you will, the right to vote on this House floor, the right to Senate representation—but matters about which Congress knows nothing and wants to know nothing, like a local prosecutor, like the right to deploy members of the National Guard, you can see why I am on dual tracks.

One is statehood, which is absolute and pure equality with other Americans, but, in the meantime, we are unwilling to pass up what we could get incrementally, and that is simply control over all of our local matters, or as many of them as we can.

□ 1700

There are many reasons why D.C. statehood is ripe. Denying statehood to the Nation's Capital is a violation of international law, and that has been noted.

Our country, in 1977—that is before I came to Congress—signed what is called the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The Human Rights Committee of the United Nations has twice indicated that the United States, by denying the residents of its Nation's Capital equal rights with other parts of the country, is in violation of international law.

The Human Rights Committee of the United Nations, said that the United Nations "... remains concerned that the residents of the District of Columbia do not enjoy full representation in Congress, a restriction which does not

seem to be compatible with article 25 of the covenant."

That is the article we signed in 1977. And, thus, we have been found in violation of international law.

Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from the District of Columbia has 6 minutes remaining.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, we are very pleased at the large number—now over 100 organizations—that have endorsed D.C. statehood. That is important to us because they themselves have millions of constituents.

One of our greatest problems has been nationalizing this issue. In fact, the residents are frustrated that people come to the Nation's Capital and they think that the residents of their capital have the same rights they have. We simply don't have a national pulpit every day that informs them.

So these 100-plus national organizations spreading the word, cascading it, is very important to us. I am not going to name all 100, but to give you an idea of how broad their constituency is, they include people like Common Cause, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, the Sierra Club, People for the American Way, and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

There are unions there. There are good government organizations there. There are organizations of every kind, and that is one of the reasons that we are sure this bill is ultimately going to pass the Senate, as well.

We draw to the attention of the House that democracy has always been an aspiration of our country. Look at who we are. When our country was created, only White men could vote. It took 132 years for White women to be able to vote. They had to sit down in the streets. They had to go to the old Lorton prison, the prison for the District of Columbia. They chained themselves to the White House gates.

If you want to know why we are undaunted when we see that half the population had to go through much that we have experienced and finally attain the vote, we cannot afford to be pessimistic. But we remind those who come to this floor and say how proud they are of what a democracy we are; that H.R. 1 has democracy-enhancing provisions because we are not a democracy yet.

The worst blow to democracy is that the Nation's Capital does not have full democracy because it does not have the same rights, including full voting rights in the Congress itself.

The Framers understood that they were creating an imperfect democracy. Remember, our Constitution is a set of compromises. They had to get the Constitution done. They had to abide by three-fifths of a man. That was the compromise for not counting the Black slaves. There were many who signed the bill who opposed that in every way, but when you have a democracy with

as many different factions as ours did then, and have now, those are the compromises you make. You will be faulted only if, over time, you do not correct those inadequacies.

I am grateful that we had barely come into session—we have been in session now only since January with Democrats in control of the House—that the Speaker issued a very powerful statement endorsing statehood; that our Majority Leader STENY HOYER has endorsed the bill. And, yes, I believe that we are coming to the end of an era, an era for 218 years where the residents of our Nation's Capital have been second-class citizens.

That is a term normally applied to African Americans, but every citizen of the United States will tell you second-class citizen knew no color. It meant every resident of the District of Columbia.

We are closing this era in the House of Representatives during the 116th Congress. I am predicting, based on the number of cosponsors, that this bill will pass the House.

It will be a historic day. It will buoy this bill to the other side of this House so that the District becomes the 51st State of the United States.

I yield back the balance of my time.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 831. An act to direct the Secretary of Transportation to request nominations for and make determinations regarding roads to be designated under the national scenic byways program, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11, 2019, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 241, the Bank Service Company Examination Coordination Act of 2019, would have no significant effect on direct spending or revenues, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows: