

117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6459

To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to redesignate the Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia as the Office of the Governor of the District of Columbia and to redesignate the Council of the District of Columbia as the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 20, 2022

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Oversight and Reform

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## A BILL

To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to redesignate the Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia as the Office of the Governor of the District of Columbia and to redesignate the Council of the District of Columbia as the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia  
5       Government Title Equality Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION OF OFFICE OF MAYOR OF DIS-**  
2 **TRICT OF COLUMBIA AS OFFICE OF GOV-**  
3 **ERNOR OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

4 (a) REDESIGNATION.—Section 421(a) of the District  
5 of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1–204.21(a), D.C. Offi-  
6 cial Code) is amended to read as follows:

7 “(a) There is established the Office of the Governor  
8 of the District of Columbia, and the Governor shall be  
9 elected by the registered qualified electors of the Dis-  
10 trict.”.

11 (b) TREATMENT OF CURRENT MAYOR.—For pur-  
12 poses of section 421(a) of the District of Columbia Home  
13 Rule Act, as amended by subsection (a), the individual  
14 holding the office of Mayor of the District of Columbia  
15 as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall be deemed  
16 to have been elected to the office of Governor of the Dis-  
17 trict of Columbia by the registered qualified electors of  
18 the District.

19 (c) REFERENCES IN LAW.—Any reference to the Of-  
20 fice of the Mayor of the District of Columbia in any law,  
21 rule, or regulation of the United States or the District  
22 of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the Office of the  
23 Governor of the District of Columbia, and any reference  
24 to the Mayor of the District of Columbia in any law, rule,  
25 or regulation of the United States or the District of Co-

1 lumbia shall be deemed to refer to the Governor of the  
2 District of Columbia.

3 **SEC. 3. REDESIGNATION OF COUNCIL OF DISTRICT OF CO-**  
4 **LUMBIA AS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF DIS-**  
5 **TRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

6 (a) REDESIGNATION.—Section 401(a) of the District  
7 of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1–204.01(a), D.C. Offi-  
8 cial Code) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(a) There is established a Legislative Assembly of  
10 the District of Columbia, consisting of Representatives  
11 who shall be elected by the registered qualified electors  
12 of the District.”.

13 (b) TREATMENT OF CURRENT MEMBERS.—For pur-  
14 poses of section 401(a) of the District of Columbia Home  
15 Rule Act, as amended by subsection (a), any individual  
16 holding the office of Member of the Council of the District  
17 of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of this Act  
18 shall be deemed to have been elected to the office of Rep-  
19 resentative of the Legislative Assembly of the District of  
20 Columbia by the registered qualified electors of the Dis-  
21 trict.

22 (c) REFERENCES IN LAW.—Any reference to the  
23 Council of the District of Columbia in any law, rule, or  
24 regulation of the United States or the District of Columbia  
25 shall be deemed to refer to the Legislative Assembly of

1 the District of Columbia, and any reference to a Member  
 2 of the Council of the District of Columbia in any law, rule,  
 3 or regulation of the United States or the District of Co-  
 4 lumbia shall be deemed to refer to a Representative of the  
 5 Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia.

6 **SEC. 4. REDESIGNATION OF CHAIR OF COUNCIL OF DIS-**  
 7 **TRICT OF COLUMBIA AS SPEAKER OF LEGIS-**  
 8 **LATIVE ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT OF COLUM-**  
 9 **BIA.**

10 (a) REDESIGNATION.—Section 411(a) of the District  
 11 of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1–204.11(a) D.C. Offi-  
 12 cial Code) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(a) The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the  
 14 District of Columbia shall be the presiding officer of the  
 15 Legislative Assembly.”.

16 (b) TREATMENT OF CURRENT CHAIR.—For purposes  
 17 of section 411(a) of the District of Columbia Home Rule  
 18 Act, as amended by subsection (a), the individual holding  
 19 the office of Chair of the Council of the District of Colum-  
 20 bia as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall be  
 21 deemed to have been elected to the office of Speaker of  
 22 the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia by  
 23 the registered qualified electors of the District.

24 (c) REFERENCES IN LAW.—Any reference to the Of-  
 25 fice of the Chair of the Council of the District of Columbia

1 in any law, rule, or regulation of the United States or the  
2 District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the Office  
3 of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the District  
4 of Columbia, and any reference to the Chair of the Council  
5 of the District of Columbia in any law, rule, or regulation  
6 of the United States or the District of Columbia shall be  
7 deemed to refer to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
8 of the District of Columbia.

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