



## ***About DC Vote***

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[www.dcvote.org](http://www.dcvote.org)

Founded in 1998, DC Vote is an educational and advocacy organization dedicated to securing full voting representation in Congress and full democracy for the more than half a million residents of the District of Columbia. Americans living in our nation's capital pay full federal taxes, fight and die in wars and serve on juries, yet they are denied voting representation in the House and the Senate. While DC residents have a locally-elected mayor and city council, all locally passed laws, as well as DC's local budget, must be sent to Congress for review and approval. In many cases, Congress overrules decisions of the local government. As a result, the most critical needs of Washingtonians are neglected or decided without the District's vote. DC Vote is working to end this injustice and to protect DC's local democracy.

As the recognized leader and go-to source of information on the DC voting rights movement, we:

- advocate for enactment of critical DC voting rights legislation
- work to prevent congressional interference in DC's local democracy
- organize our supporters to contact members of Congress through call-in days, letter-writing campaigns and face-to-face advocacy
- engage our coalition partners, individual supporters and pro bono lobbyists to educate members of Congress and their staff
- serve as a resource to elected officials, the media and the general public

Our efforts led to the historic Senate passage of the DC Voting Rights Act (H.R.157/S.160) on February 26, 2009. As we work to pass this important bill, we continue to research and explore legislation to provide full local democracy and to make Washington, DC the 51st state in the union. With voting representation equal to that of other Americans, DC will be better empowered to end congressional interference in local matters, have an equal vote on important national issues and tackle local problems with more resources and greater freedom.