

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 317

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia into the Union.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2015

Ms. NORTON (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CHU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FARR, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LIEU of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. O'Rourke, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. TAKAI, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

# A BILL

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia  
into the Union.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “New Columbia Admission Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

## TITLE I—STATE OF NEW COLUMBIA

### Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

- Sec. 101. Admission into the Union.
- Sec. 102. Process for admission.
- Sec. 103. Election of officials of State.
- Sec. 104. Issuance of presidential proclamation.

### Subtitle B—Description of New Columbia Territory

- Sec. 111. Territories and boundaries of New Columbia.
- Sec. 112. Description of District of Columbia after admission of State.
- Sec. 113. Continuation of title to lands and property.

### Subtitle C—General Provisions Relating to Laws of New Columbia

- Sec. 121. Limitation on authority of State to tax Federal property.
- Sec. 122. Effect of admission of State on current laws.
- Sec. 123. Continuation of judicial proceedings.
- Sec. 124. United States nationality.

## TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Sec. 201. Continuation of revised District of Columbia as seat of Federal Government.
- Sec. 202. Treatment of military lands.
- Sec. 203. Waiver of claims to Federal lands and property.
- Sec. 204. Permitting individuals residing in new seat of government to vote in Federal elections in State of most recent domicile.
- Sec. 205. Repeal of law providing for participation of District of Columbia in election of President and Vice-President.

Sec. 206. Expedited consideration of constitutional amendment.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. General definitions.

Sec. 302. Certification of enactment by President.

1           **TITLE I—STATE OF NEW**  
 2                           **COLUMBIA**  
 3           **Subtitle A—Procedures for**  
 4                           **Admission**

5   **SEC. 101. ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.**

6           (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this  
 7 Act, upon issuance of the proclamation required by section  
 8 104(b), the State of New Columbia is declared to be a  
 9 State of the United States of America, and is declared  
 10 admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the other  
 11 States in all respects whatever.

12           (b) CONSTITUTION OF STATE.—The State Constitu-  
 13 tion shall always be republican in form and shall not be  
 14 repugnant to the Constitution of the United States and  
 15 the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

16   **SEC. 102. PROCESS FOR ADMISSION.**

17           (a) APPROVAL OF ADMISSION BY VOTERS OF DIS-  
 18 TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

19                   (1) ELECTION PROCEDURES.—At an election  
 20 designated by proclamation of the Mayor, which may  
 21 be the primary or the general election held pursuant  
 22 to section 103(a), a general election, or a special  
 23 election, there shall be submitted to the electors

1 qualified to vote in such election the following propo-  
2 sitions for adoption or rejection:

3 “(A) New Columbia shall immediately be  
4 admitted into the Union as a State.

5 “(B) The proposed Constitution for the  
6 State of New Columbia, as adopted by the  
7 Council of the District of Columbia pursuant to  
8 the Constitution for the State of New Columbia  
9 Approval Act of 1987 (D.C. Law 7–8), shall be  
10 deemed ratified and shall replace the Constitu-  
11 tion for the State of New Columbia ratified on  
12 November 2, 1982.

13 “(C) The boundaries of the State of New  
14 Columbia shall be as prescribed in the New Co-  
15 lumbia Admission Act.

16 “(D) All provisions of the New Columbia  
17 Admission Act, including provisions reserving  
18 rights or powers to the United States and pro-  
19 visions prescribing the terms or conditions of  
20 the grants of lands or other property made to  
21 the State of New Columbia, are consented to  
22 fully by the State and its people.”.

23 (2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAYOR.—The Mayor  
24 of the District of Columbia is authorized and di-  
25 rected to take such action as may be necessary or

1 appropriate to ensure the submission of such propo-  
2 sitions to the people. The return of the votes cast on  
3 such propositions shall be made by the election offi-  
4 cers directly to the Board of Elections of the Dis-  
5 trict of Columbia, which shall certify the results of  
6 the submission to the Mayor. The Mayor shall cer-  
7 tify the results of such submission to the President  
8 of the United States.

9 (b) EFFECT OF VOTE.—

10 (1) ADOPTION OF PROPOSITIONS.—In the event  
11 the propositions described in subsection (a) are  
12 adopted in an election under such subsection by a  
13 majority of the legal votes cast on such submis-  
14 sion—

15 (A) the State Constitution shall be deemed  
16 ratified; and

17 (B) the President shall issue a proclama-  
18 tion pursuant to section 104.

19 (2) REJECTION OF PROPOSITION.—In the event  
20 any one of the propositions described in subsection  
21 (a) is not adopted in an election under such sub-  
22 section by a majority of the legal votes cast on such  
23 submission, the provisions of this Act shall cease to  
24 be effective.

1 **SEC. 103. ELECTION OF OFFICIALS OF STATE.**

2 (a) ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after  
4 receiving certification of the enactment of this Act  
5 from the President pursuant to section 302, the  
6 Mayor of the District of Columbia shall issue a pro-  
7 clamation for the first elections, subject to the provi-  
8 sions of this section, for two Senators and one Rep-  
9 resentative in Congress.

10 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ELECTION OF SEN-  
11 ATORS.—In the election of Senators from the State  
12 pursuant to paragraph (1), the 2 Senate offices shall  
13 be separately identified and designated, and no per-  
14 son may be a candidate for both offices. No such  
15 identification or designation of either of the offices  
16 shall refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of  
17 such offices, or in any way impair the privilege of  
18 the Senate to determine the class to which each of  
19 the Senators elected shall be assigned.

20 (b) RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The proclamation of the  
22 Mayor issued under subsection (a) shall provide for  
23 the holding of a primary election and a general elec-  
24 tion and at such elections the officers required to be  
25 elected as provided in subsection (a) shall be chosen

1 by the qualified electors of the District of Columbia  
2 in the manner required by law.

3 (2) CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS.—Election re-  
4 turns shall be made and certified in the manner re-  
5 quired by law, except that the Mayor shall also cer-  
6 tify the results of such elections to the President of  
7 the United States.

8 (c) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Upon the admission  
9 of the State into the Union, the Senators and Representa-  
10 tive elected at the election described in subsection (a) shall  
11 be entitled to be admitted to seats in Congress and to all  
12 the rights and privileges of Senators and Representatives  
13 of other States in the Congress of the United States.

14 (d) TRANSFER OF OFFICES OF MAYOR AND MEM-  
15 BERS AND CHAIR OF COUNCIL.—Upon the admission of  
16 the State into the Union, the Mayor, members of the  
17 Council, and the Chair of the Council at the time of admis-  
18 sion shall be deemed the Governor, members of the House  
19 of Delegates, and the President of the House of Delegates  
20 of the State, respectively, as provided by the State Con-  
21 stitution and the laws of the State.

22 (e) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY AND DUTIES AND  
23 JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—Upon the admis-  
24 sion of the State into the Union, members of executive  
25 and judicial offices of the District of Columbia shall be

1 deemed members of the respective executive and judicial  
2 offices of the State, as provided by the State Constitution  
3 and the laws of the State.

4 (f) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
5 TIVES MEMBERSHIP.—The State upon its admission into  
6 the Union shall be entitled to one Representative until the  
7 taking effect of the next reapportionment, and such Rep-  
8 resentative shall be in addition to the membership of the  
9 House of Representatives as now prescribed by law, except  
10 that such temporary increase in the membership shall not  
11 operate to either increase or decrease the permanent mem-  
12 bership of the House of Representatives or affect the basis  
13 of apportionment for the Congress.

14 **SEC. 104. ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the President finds that the  
16 propositions set forth in section 102(a) have been duly  
17 adopted by the people of the State, the President, upon  
18 certification of the returns of the election of the officers  
19 required to be elected as provided in section 103(a), shall,  
20 not later than 90 days after receiving such certification,  
21 issue a proclamation announcing the results of such elec-  
22 tions as so ascertained.

23 (b) ADMISSION OF STATE UPON ISSUANCE OF PROC-  
24 LAMATION.—Upon the issuance of the proclamation by the



1 President under subsection (a), the State shall be deemed  
2 admitted into the Union as provided in section 101.

3 **Subtitle B—Description of New**  
4 **Columbia Territory**

5 **SEC. 111. TERRITORIES AND BOUNDARIES OF NEW COLUM-**  
6 **BIA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
8 (b), the State shall consist of all of the territory of the  
9 District of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of  
10 this Act, subject to the results of the technical survey con-  
11 ducted under subsection (c).

12 (b) EXCLUSION OF PORTION OF DISTRICT OF CO-  
13 LUMBIA REMAINING AS NATIONAL CAPITAL.—The terri-  
14 tory of the State shall not include the area described in  
15 section 112, which shall remain as the District of Colum-  
16 bia for purposes of serving as the seat of the government  
17 of the United States.

18 (c) TECHNICAL SURVEY.—Not later than 6 months  
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President  
20 (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital  
21 Planning Commission) shall conduct a technical survey of  
22 the metes and bounds of the District of Columbia and of  
23 the territory described in section 112(b).

1 **SEC. 112. DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AFTER**  
2 **ADMISSION OF STATE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the succeeding provi-  
4 sions of this section, after the admission of the State into  
5 the Union, the District of Columbia shall consist of the  
6 property described in subsection (b) and shall include the  
7 principal Federal monuments, the White House, the Cap-  
8 itol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building,  
9 and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office  
10 buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the Capitol  
11 Building.

12 (b) SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF METES AND  
13 BOUNDS.—After the admission of the State into the  
14 Union, the specific metes and bounds of the District of  
15 Columbia shall be as follows:

16 Beginning at the point on the present Virginia-  
17 District of Columbia boundary due west of the  
18 northernmost point of Theodore Roosevelt Island  
19 and running due east of the eastern shore of the Po-  
20 tomac River;

21 thence generally south along the shore at the  
22 mean high water mark to the northwest corner of  
23 the Kennedy Center;

24 thence east along the north side of the Kennedy  
25 Center to a point where it reaches the E Street Ex-  
26 pressway;

1           thence east on the expressway to E Street  
2 Northwest and thence east on E Street Northwest to  
3 Eighteenth Street Northwest;  
4           thence south on Eighteenth Street Northwest to  
5 Constitution Avenue Northwest;  
6           thence east on Constitution Avenue to Seven-  
7 teenth Street Northwest;  
8           thence north on Seventeenth Street Northwest  
9 to Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;  
10          thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue to Jackson  
11 Place Northwest; thence north on Jackson Place to  
12 H Street Northwest;  
13          thence east on H Street Northwest to Madison  
14 Place Northwest;  
15          thence south on Madison Place Northwest to  
16 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;  
17          thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
18 to Fifteenth Street Northwest;  
19          thence south on Fifteenth Street Northwest to  
20 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;  
21          thence southeast on Pennsylvania Avenue  
22 Northwest to John Marshall Place Northwest;  
23          thence north on John Marshall Place Northwest  
24 to C Street Northwest;

1           thence east on C Street Northwest to Third  
2 Street Northwest;

3           thence north on Third Street Northwest to D  
4 Street Northwest;

5           thence east on D Street Northwest to Second  
6 Street Northwest;

7           thence south on Second Street Northwest to the  
8 intersection of Constitution Avenue Northwest and  
9 Louisiana Avenue Northwest;

10          thence northeast on Louisiana Avenue North-  
11 west to North Capitol Street;

12          thence north on North Capitol Street to Massa-  
13 chusetts Avenue Northwest;

14          thence southeast on Massachusetts Avenue  
15 Northwest so as to encompass Union Square;

16          thence following Union Square to F Street  
17 Northeast;

18          thence east on F Street Northeast to Second  
19 Street Northeast;

20          thence south on Second Street Northeast to D  
21 Street Northeast;

22          thence west on D Street Northeast to First  
23 Street Northeast;

24          thence south on First Street Northeast to  
25 Maryland Avenue Northeast;

1           thence generally north and east on Maryland  
2 Avenue to Second Street Northeast;  
3           thence south on Second Street Northeast to C  
4 Street Southeast;  
5           thence west on C Street Southeast to New Jer-  
6 sey Avenue Southeast;  
7           thence south on New Jersey Avenue Southeast  
8 to D Street Southeast;  
9           thence west on D Street Southeast to Wash-  
10 ington Avenue Southwest;  
11           thence southeast on Washington Avenue South-  
12 west to E Street Southeast;  
13           thence west on E Street Southeast to the inter-  
14 section of Washington Avenue Southwest and South  
15 Capitol Street;  
16           thence northwest on Washington Avenue South-  
17 west to Second Street Southwest;  
18           thence south on Second Street Southwest to  
19 Virginia Avenue Southwest;  
20           thence generally west on Virginia Avenue to  
21 Third Street Southwest;  
22           thence north on Third Street Southwest to C  
23 Street Southwest;  
24           thence west on C Street Southwest to Sixth  
25 Street Southwest;

1           thence north on Sixth Street Southwest to Inde-  
2           pendence Avenue;

3           thence west on Independence Avenue to Twelfth  
4           Street Southwest;

5           thence south on Twelfth Street Southwest to D  
6           Street Southwest;

7           thence west on D Street Southwest to Four-  
8           teenth Street Southwest;

9           thence south on Fourteenth Street Southwest to  
10          the middle of the Washington Channel;

11          thence generally south and east along the  
12          midchannel of the Washington Channel to a point  
13          due west of the northern boundary line of Fort Les-  
14          ley McNair;

15          thence due east to the side of the Washington  
16          Channel;

17          thence following generally south and east along  
18          the side of the Washington Channel at the mean  
19          high water mark, to the point of confluence with the  
20          Anacostia River, and along the northern shore at the  
21          mean high water mark to the northernmost point of  
22          the Eleventh Street Bridge;

23          thence generally south and east along the  
24          northern side of the Eleventh Street Bridge to the  
25          eastern shore of the Anacostia River;

1           thence generally south and west along such  
2 shore at the mean high water mark to the point of  
3 confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers;

4           thence generally south along the eastern shore  
5 at the mean high water mark of the Potomac River  
6 to the point where it meets the present southeastern  
7 boundary line of the District of Columbia;

8           thence south and west along such southeastern  
9 boundary line to the point where it meets the  
10 present Virginia-District of Columbia boundary; and

11           thence generally north and west up the Poto-  
12 mac River along the present Virginia-District of Co-  
13 lumbia boundary to the point of beginning.

14 (c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.—

15           (1) STREETS AND SIDEWALKS BOUNDING  
16 AREA.—After the admission of the State into the  
17 Union, the District of Columbia shall be deemed to  
18 include any street (together with any sidewalk there-  
19 of) bounding the District of Columbia.

20           (2) EXCLUSION OF DISTRICT BUILDING.—Not-  
21 withstanding any other provision of this section, the  
22 District of Columbia shall not be considered to in-  
23 clude the District Building after the admission of  
24 the State into the Union.

1           (3) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN MILITARY PROP-  
2       ERTY.—After the admission of the State into the  
3       Union, the District of Columbia shall be deemed to  
4       include Fort Lesley McNair, the Washington Navy  
5       Yard, the Anacostia Naval Annex, the United States  
6       Naval Station, Bolling Air Force Base, and the  
7       Naval Research Laboratory.

8 **SEC. 113. CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS AND PROP-**  
9                               **ERTY.**

10       (a) CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS OF DIS-  
11       TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The State and its political  
13       subdivisions shall have and retain title or jurisdic-  
14       tion for purposes of administration and maintenance  
15       to all property, real and personal, with respect to  
16       which title or jurisdiction for purposes of adminis-  
17       tration and maintenance is held by the District of  
18       Columbia on the day before the State is admitted  
19       into the Union.

20           (2) CONVEYANCE OF INTEREST IN CERTAIN  
21       BRIDGES AND TUNNELS.—On the day before the  
22       State is admitted into the Union, the District of Co-  
23       lumbia shall convey to the United States any and all  
24       interest of the District of Columbia in any bridge or  
25       tunnel that will connect the Commonwealth of Vir-



1       ginia with the District of Columbia after the admis-  
2       sion of the State into the Union.

3       (b) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL TITLE TO PROP-  
4       ERTY IN STATE.—The United States shall have and retain  
5       title or jurisdiction for purposes of administration and  
6       maintenance to all property in the State with respect to  
7       which the United States holds title or jurisdiction on the  
8       day before the State is admitted into the Union.

9       **Subtitle C—General Provisions**  
10      **Relating to Laws of New Columbia**

11      **SEC. 121. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF STATE TO TAX**  
12                              **FEDERAL PROPERTY.**

13       The State may not impose any taxes upon any lands  
14       or other property owned or acquired by the United States,  
15       except to the extent as Congress may permit.

16      **SEC. 122. EFFECT OF ADMISSION OF STATE ON CURRENT**  
17                              **LAWS.**

18       (a) LEGISLATIVE POWER OF STATE.—The legislative  
19       power of the State shall extend to all rightful subjects of  
20       legislation within the State, consistent with the Constitu-  
21       tion of the United States (including the restrictions and  
22       limitations imposed upon the States by article I, section  
23       10) and subject to the provisions of this Act.

24       (b) TREATMENT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—To the extent  
25       that any law of the United States applies to the States

1 generally, the law shall have the same force and effect  
2 within the State as elsewhere in the United States, except  
3 as such law may otherwise provide.

4 **SEC. 123. CONTINUATION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.**

5 (a) PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—No writ, action, indictment,  
7 cause, or proceeding pending in any court of the  
8 District of Columbia or in the United States District  
9 Court for the District of Columbia shall abate by  
10 reason of the admission of the State into the Union,  
11 but shall be transferred and shall proceed within  
12 such appropriate State courts as shall be established  
13 under the State Constitution, or shall continue in  
14 the United States District Court for the District of  
15 Columbia, as the nature of the case may require.

16 (2) SUCCESSION OF COURTS.—The appropriate  
17 courts of the State shall be the successors of the  
18 courts of the District of Columbia as to all cases  
19 arising within the limits embraced within the juris-  
20 diction of such courts, with full power to proceed  
21 with such cases, and award mesne or final process  
22 therein, and all files, records, indictments, and pro-  
23 ceedings relating to any such writ, action, indict-  
24 ment, cause, or proceeding shall be transferred to

1       such appropriate State courts and shall be proceeded  
2       with therein in due course of law.

3       (b) UNFILED PROCEEDINGS BASED ON ACTIONS  
4 PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—All civil causes of action and all  
5 criminal offenses which shall have arisen or been com-  
6 mitted prior to the admission of the State into the Union,  
7 but as to which no writ, action, indictment, or proceeding  
8 shall be pending at the date of such admission, shall be  
9 subject to prosecution in the appropriate State courts or  
10 in the United States District Court for the District of Co-  
11 lumbia in like manner, to the same extent, and with like  
12 right of appellate review, as if the State had been admitted  
13 and such State courts had been established prior to the  
14 accrual of such causes of action or the commission of such  
15 offenses.

16       (c) MAINTENANCE OF RIGHTS TO AND JURISDICTION  
17 OVER APPEALS.—

18           (1) CASES DECIDED PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—  
19       Parties shall have the same rights of appeal from  
20       and appellate review of final decisions of the United  
21       States District Court for the District of Columbia or  
22       the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in any  
23       case finally decided prior to the admission of the  
24       State into the Union, whether or not an appeal  
25       therefrom shall have been perfected prior to such ad-

1 mission. The United States Court of Appeals for the  
2 District of Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court  
3 of the United States shall have the same jurisdiction  
4 in such cases as by law provided prior to the admis-  
5 sion of the State into the Union.

6 (2) CASES DECIDED AFTER ADMISSION.—Par-  
7 ties shall have the same rights of appeal from and  
8 appellate review of all orders, judgments, and de-  
9 crees of the United States District Court for the  
10 District of Columbia and of the highest court of the  
11 State, as successor to the District of Columbia  
12 Court of Appeals, in any case pending at the time  
13 of admission of the State into the Union, and the  
14 United States Court of Appeals for the District of  
15 Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court of the  
16 United States shall have the same jurisdiction there-  
17 in, as by law provided in any case arising subsequent  
18 to the admission of the State into the Union.

19 (3) ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT MANDATES.—  
20 Any mandate issued subsequent to the admission of  
21 the State shall be to the United States District  
22 Court for the District of Columbia or a court of the  
23 State, as appropriate.

1 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO FED-  
2 ERAL COURTS.—Effective upon the admission of the State  
3 into the Union—

4 (1) section 41 of title 28, United States Code,  
5 is amended in the second column by inserting “,  
6 New Columbia” after “District of Columbia”; and

7 (2) the first paragraph of section 88 of title 28,  
8 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

9 “The District of Columbia and the State of  
10 New Columbia comprise one judicial district.”.

11 **SEC. 124. UNITED STATES NATIONALITY.**

12 No provision of this Act shall operate to confer  
13 United States nationality, to terminate nationality lawfully  
14 acquired, or to restore nationality terminated or lost under  
15 any law of the United States or under any treaty to which  
16 the United States is or was a party.

17 **TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES**  
18 **AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL**  
19 **GOVERNMENT**

20 **SEC. 201. CONTINUATION OF REVISED DISTRICT OF CO-**  
21 **LUMBIA AS SEAT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

22 After the admission of the State into the Union, the  
23 seat of the Government of the United States shall be the  
24 District of Columbia as described in section 112 (also  
25 known as “Washington, DC”).

1 **SEC. 202. TREATMENT OF MILITARY LANDS.**

2 (a) RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)  
4 and subsection (b) and notwithstanding the admis-  
5 sion of the State into the Union, authority is re-  
6 served in the United States for the exercise by Con-  
7 gress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases  
8 whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land lo-  
9 cated within the State that, immediately prior to the  
10 admission of the State, are controlled or owned by  
11 the United States and held for defense or Coast  
12 Guard purposes.

13 (2) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The power of  
14 exclusive legislation described in paragraph (1) shall  
15 vest and remain in the United States only so long  
16 as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is  
17 controlled or owned by the United States and used  
18 for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

19 (b) AUTHORITY OF STATE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority  
21 in the United States for the exercise by the Congress  
22 of the United States of the power of exclusive legis-  
23 lation over military lands under subsection (a) shall  
24 not operate to prevent such lands from being a part  
25 of the State, or to prevent the State from exercising  
26 over or upon such lands, concurrently with the

1 United States, any jurisdiction which it would have  
2 in the absence of such reservation of authority and  
3 which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted  
4 by Congress pursuant to such reservation of author-  
5 ity.

6 (2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State shall  
7 have the right to serve civil or criminal process with-  
8 in such tracts or parcels of land in which the author-  
9 ity of the United States is reserved under subsection  
10 (a) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of  
11 rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes com-  
12 mitted within the State but outside of such tracts or  
13 parcels of land.

14 **SEC. 203. WAIVER OF CLAIMS TO FEDERAL LANDS AND**  
15 **PROPERTY.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—As a compact with the United  
17 States, the State and its people disclaim all right and title  
18 to any lands or other property not granted or confirmed  
19 to the State or its political subdivisions by or under the  
20 authority of this Act, the right or title to which is held  
21 by the United States or subject to disposition by the  
22 United States.

23 (b) EFFECT ON CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing contained in this  
25 Act shall recognize, deny, enlarge, impair, or other-

1 wise affect any claim against the United States, and  
2 any such claim shall be governed by applicable laws  
3 of the United States.

4 (2) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this  
5 Act is intended or shall be construed as a finding,  
6 interpretation, or construction by the Congress that  
7 any applicable law authorizes, establishes, recog-  
8 nizes, or confirms the validity or invalidity of any  
9 claim referred to in paragraph (1), and the deter-  
10 mination of the applicability or effect of any law to  
11 any such claim shall be unaffected by anything in  
12 this Act.

13 **SEC. 204. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN NEW**  
14 **SEAT OF GOVERNMENT TO VOTE IN FEDERAL**  
15 **ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT**  
16 **DOMICILE.**

17 (a) **REQUIREMENT FOR STATES TO PERMIT INDIVID-**  
18 **UALS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.**—

19 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each State shall—

20 (A) permit absent District of Columbia  
21 voters to use absentee registration procedures  
22 and to vote by absentee ballot in general, spe-  
23 cial, primary, and runoff elections for Federal  
24 office; and



1 (B) accept and process, with respect to any  
2 general, special, primary, or runoff election for  
3 Federal office, any otherwise valid voter reg-  
4 istration application from an absent District of  
5 Columbia voter, if the application is received by  
6 the appropriate State election official not less  
7 than 30 days before the election.

8 (2) ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTER DE-  
9 FINED.—In this section, the term “absent District  
10 of Columbia voter” means, with respect to a State,  
11 a person who resides in the District of Columbia  
12 after the admission of the State of New Columbia  
13 into the Union and is qualified to vote in the State  
14 (or who would be qualified to vote in the State but  
15 for residing in the District of Columbia), but only if  
16 the State is the last place in which the person was  
17 domiciled before residing in the District of Colum-  
18 bia.

19 (3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
20 “State” means each of the several States, including  
21 the State of New Columbia.

22 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATES TO MAXIMIZE  
23 ACCESS TO POLLS BY ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
24 VOTERS.—To afford maximum access to the polls by ab-

1 sent District of Columbia voters, it is recommended that  
2 the States—

3           (1) waive registration requirements for absent  
4 District of Columbia voters who, by reason of resi-  
5 dence in the District of Columbia, do not have an  
6 opportunity to register;

7           (2) expedite processing of balloting materials  
8 with respect to such individuals; and

9           (3) assure that absentee ballots are mailed to  
10 such individuals at the earliest opportunity.

11       (c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney General may  
12 bring a civil action in appropriate district court for such  
13 declaratory or injunctive relief as may be necessary to  
14 carry out this section.

15       (d) EFFECT ON CERTAIN OTHER LAWS.—The exer-  
16 cise of any right under this section shall not affect, for  
17 purposes of any Federal, State, or local tax, the residence  
18 or domicile of a person exercising such right.

19       (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect  
20 upon the date of the admission of the State into the  
21 Union, and shall apply with respect to elections for Fed-  
22 eral office taking place on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 205. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION**  
2 **OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN ELECTION OF**  
3 **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title 3, United States Code, is  
5 amended by striking section 21.

6 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
7 subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the admis-  
8 sion of the State into the Union, and shall apply to any  
9 election of the President and Vice-President of the United  
10 States taking place on or after such date.

11 **SEC. 206. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITU-**  
12 **TIONAL AMENDMENT.**

13 (a) **EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**—This  
14 section is enacted by Congress—

15 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of  
16 the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-  
17 spectively, and as such these provisions are deemed  
18 a part of the rule of each House, respectively, but  
19 applicable only with respect to the procedure to be  
20 followed in that House in the case of a joint resolu-  
21 tion described in subsection (b), and they supersede  
22 other rules only to the extent that they are incon-  
23 sistent therewith; and

24 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional  
25 right of either House to change the rule (so far as  
26 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,

1 in the same manner and to the same extent as in  
2 the case of any other rule of that House.

3 (b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF REPEAL OF  
4 23RD AMENDMENT.—

5 (1) MOTION MADE IN ORDER.—At any time  
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, it shall  
7 be in order in either the House of Representatives  
8 or the Senate to offer a motion to proceed to the  
9 consideration of a joint resolution proposing an  
10 amendment to the Constitution of the United States  
11 repealing the 23rd article of amendment to the Con-  
12 stitution.

13 (2) PROCEDURES RELATING TO MOTION.—With  
14 respect to the motion described in paragraph (1),  
15 the following rules shall apply:

16 (A) The motion is highly privileged and is  
17 not debatable.

18 (B) An amendment to the motion is not in  
19 order, and it is not in order to move to recon-  
20 sider the vote by which the motion is agreed to  
21 or disagreed to.

22 (C) A motion to postpone shall be decided  
23 without debate.

1                   **TITLE III—GENERAL**  
2                   **PROVISIONS**

3 **SEC. 301. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.**

4           In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

5               (1) The term “Council” means the Council of  
6           the District of Columbia.

7               (2) The term “Governor” means the Governor  
8           of the State of New Columbia.

9               (3) The term “Mayor” means the Mayor of the  
10          District of Columbia.

11              (4) The term “State Constitution” means the  
12          constitution of the State of New Columbia, as adopt-  
13          ed by the Council of the District of Columbia in the  
14          Constitution for the State of New Columbia Ap-  
15          proval Act of 1987 (D.C. Law 7–8).

16              (5) Except as otherwise provided, the term  
17          “State” means the State of New Columbia.

18 **SEC. 302. CERTIFICATION OF ENACTMENT BY PRESIDENT.**

19          Not more than 60 days after the date of enactment  
20          of this Act, the President shall certify such enactment to  
21          the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

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