I

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION  

H. R. 730

To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to eliminate Congressional review of newly-passed District laws.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2015

Ms. NORTON 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 amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to eliminate Congressional review of newly-passed District laws.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES IN ACT.

(a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia Paperwork Reduction Act”.

(b) References in Act.—Except as may otherwise be provided, whenever in this Act an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be
made to that section or other provision of the District of
Columbia Home Rule Act.

SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF
NEWLY-PASSED DISTRICT LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 602 (sec. 1–206.02, D.C.
Official Code) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(b) CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTIONS OF DIS-
APPROVAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia
Home Rule Act is amended by striking section 604
(see. 1–206.04, D.C. Official Code).

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
tents is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
tion 604.

(3) EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWER.—This
subsection and the amendments made by this sub-
section are enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power
of the House of Representatives and the Sen-
ate, respectively, and as such they shall be con-
sidered as a part of the rules of each House, re-
spectively, or of that House to which they spe-
cifically apply, and such rules shall supersede
other rules only to the extent that they are in-
consistent therewith; and
(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change such rules (so far as relating to such House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of such House.

(c) Conforming Amendments.—

(1) District of Columbia Home Rule Act.—

(A) Section 303 (sec. 1–203.03, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking the second sentence; and

(ii) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c).

(B) Section 404(e) (sec. 1–204.04(3), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking “subject to the provisions of section 602(c)” each place it appears.

(C) Section 462 (sec. 1–204.62, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking “(a) The Council” and inserting “The Council”; and

(ii) by striking subsections (b) and (c).

(D) Section 472(d) (sec. 1–204.72(d), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:
“(d) Payments Not Subject to Appropriation.—The fourth sentence of section 446 shall not apply to any amount obligated or expended by the District for the payment of the principal of, interest on, or redemption premium for any revenue anticipation note issued under subsection (a).”.

(E) Section 475(e) (sec. 1–204.75(e), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) Payments Not Subject to Appropriation.—The fourth sentence of section 446 shall not apply to any amount obligated or expended by the District for the payment of the principal of, interest on, or redemption premium for any revenue anticipation note issued under this section.”.

(2) Other Laws.—(A) Section 2(b)(1) of Amendment No. 1 (relating to initiative and referendum) to title IV (the District Charter) (sec. 1–204.102(b)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking “the appropriate custodian” and all that follows through “portion of such act to”.

(B) Section 5 of Amendment No. 1 (relating to initiative and referendum) to title IV (the District Charter) (sec. 1–204.105, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking “, and such act” and all that follows and inserting a period.
(C) Section 16 of the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955 (sec. 1–1001.16, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) in subsection (j)(2)—

(I) by striking “sections 404 and 602(c)” and inserting “section 404”, and

(II) by striking the second sentence; and

(ii) in subsection (m)—

(I) in the first sentence, by striking “the appropriate custodian” and all that follows through “parts of such act to”,

(II) by striking “is held. If, however, after” and inserting “is held unless, under”, and

(III) by striking “section, the act which” and all that follows and inserting “section.”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to each act of the District of Columbia—

(1) passed by the Council of the District of Columbia and signed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia;
(2) vetoed by the Mayor and repassed by the Council;

(3) passed by the Council and allowed to become effective by the Mayor without the Mayor’s signature; or

(4) in the case of initiated acts and acts subject to referendum, ratified by a majority of the registered qualified electors voting on the initiative or referendum, on or after October 1, 2015.