To provide for full voting representation in Congress for the citizens of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

__________________________

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2003

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

__________________________

A BILL

To provide for full voting representation in Congress for the citizens 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 “No Taxation Without
5 Representation Act of 2003”.

6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The residents of the District of Columbia
9 are the only Americans who pay Federal income
taxes but are denied voting representation in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) The residents of the District of Columbia suffer the very injustice against which our Founding Fathers fought, because they do not have voting representation as other taxpaying Americans do and are nevertheless required to pay Federal income taxes unlike the Americans who live in the territories.

(3) The principle of one person, one vote requires that residents of the District of Columbia are afforded full voting representation in the House and the Senate.

(4) Despite the denial of voting representation, Americans in the Nation’s Capital are second among residents of all States in per capita income taxes paid to the Federal Government.

(5) Unequal voting representation in our representative democracy is inconsistent with the founding principles of the Nation and the strongly held principles of the American people today.

SEC. 3. REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

For the purposes of congressional representation, the District of Columbia, constituting the seat of government of the United States, shall be treated as a State, such that
its residents shall be entitled to elect and be represented
by 2 Senators in the United States Senate, and as many
Representatives in the House of Representatives as a simi-
larly populous State would be entitled to under the law.

SEC. 4. ELECTIONS.

(a) First Elections.—

(1) Proclamation.—Not later than 30 days
after the date of enactment of this Act, the Mayor
of the District of Columbia shall issue a proclama-
tion for elections to be held to fill the 2 Senate seats
and the seat in the House of Representatives to rep-
resent the District of Columbia in Congress.

(2) Manner of Elections.—The proclama-
tion of the Mayor of the District of Columbia re-
quired by paragraph (1) shall provide for the holding
of a primary election and a general election and at
such elections the officers to be elected shall be cho-
sen by a popular vote of the residents of the District
of Columbia. The manner in which such elections
shall be held and the qualification of voters shall be
the same as those for local elections, as prescribed
by the District of Columbia.

(3) Classification of Senators.—In the
first election of Senators from the District of Colum-
bia, the 2 senatorial offices shall be separately iden-
tified and designated, and no person may be a can-
didate for both offices. No such identification or des-
ignation of either of the 2 senatorial offices shall
refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of such
offices, or in any way impair the privilege of the
Senate to determine the class to which each of the
Senators elected shall be assigned.

(b) Certification of Election.—The results of
an election for the Senators and Representative from the
District of Columbia shall be certified by the Mayor of
the District of Columbia in the manner required by law
and the Senators and Representative shall be entitled to
be admitted to seats in Congress and to all the rights and
privileges of Senators and Representatives of the States
in the Congress of the United States.

SEC. 5. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERSHIP.

(a) In General.—Upon the date of enactment of
this Act, the District of Columbia shall be entitled to 1
Representative until the taking effect of the next reappor-
tionment. Such Representative shall be in addition to the
membership of the House of Representatives as now pre-
scribed by law.

(b) Increase in Membership of House of Rep-
resentatives.—Upon the date of enactment of this Act,
the permanent membership of the House of Representa-
atives shall increase by 1 seat for the purpose of future reapportionment of Representatives.

(c) REAPPORTIONMENT.—Upon reapportionment, the District of Columbia shall be entitled to as many seats in the House of Representatives as a similarly populous State would be entitled to under the law.

(d) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DELEGATE.—Until the first Representative from the District of Columbia is seated in the House of Representatives, the Delegate in Congress from the District of Columbia shall continue to discharge the duties of his or her office.