



GENERAL AUDIENCE TALKING POINTS

- Welcome to the District of Columbia where nearly 660,000 American citizens are treated as second-class citizens.
- Washingtonians pay federal taxes, fight and die in wars, yet have no vote in Congress.
- Unlike any jurisdiction in the nation, the laws, tax dollars and budget passed by local elected leaders are required for approval by Congress.
- Change to this antiquated structure of disenfranchisement is long overdue.
- A DC Vote 2013 national poll shows that Americans strongly support equal representation and more local autonomy for the District of Columbia.
- Congress has authority to change the structure. There is current legislation in the 114th Congress that, if passed, would minimize congressional oversight of the District's local laws and local tax dollars; and legislation that would grant permanent autonomy and full representation.
- It's in the best of interest of everyone to allow DC residents to fully participate in our great democracy. Anything short of full equality is simply un-American.
- Washingtonians need your help. Learn more at www.DCVote.org, the largest national organization dedicated to strengthening democracy and securing equality for all in the District of Columbia.