

August 21, 2025

Oppose Takeover of D.C. Responsibilities, Support Statehood Instead

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of DC Vote and the 76 other undersigned local and national organizations, we write to express our strong opposition to President Trump's takeover of the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, his deployment of the National Guard in D.C., and his request for more power over the lives of Americans living in our nation's capital.

President Trump's actions are unwarranted. Under the Home Rule Act, the President may nationalize the D.C. Metropolitan Police when an emergency exists that requires such action "for federal purposes." No such emergency exists. Violent crime is down by 26 percent in D.C. compared to last year. In fact, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, violent crime in D.C. is at a 30-year low.

The high-profile crimes cited by the President, while unacceptable, served as a pretext to launch a takeover of D.C. We urge you to reject his and other people's efforts to continue federal control over D.C.'s local police and/or to change the Home Rule Act. Taking any of those steps would be a violation of the American principle of self-government and send a single to your constituents that their local government may be next.

Instead, we urge you to cosponsor and pass the D.C. Admissions Act, S.51 and H.R. 51. The President's actions make clear once again that Americans in D.C. are second class citizens in their own country. We must right this historic wrong by providing Washingtonians with full voting representation in both chambers of Congress. We look forward to working with you to fulfill the promise of American democracy by making D.C. the 51st state.

Sincerely,

DC Vote
A. Philip Randolph Institute
ACLU-D.C.
Action Together NEPA
Advancement Project
American Federation of Teachers
American Humanist Association
Anacostia Coordinating Council
Asbury United Methodist Church
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

Black Voters Matter Fund

Brand Yourself Ministries LLC

Campaign Legal Center

Center for Common Ground

Choose Democracy

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)

Clean Elections Texas

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Common Defense

D.C. Chapter of National Organization for Women

DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice

DC Democratic State Committee

DC Jobs with Justice

Declaration for American Democracy

DemCast USA

Democracy Defenders Action

Equal Ground Action Fund

Faith in Action National Network

Feminist Majority

FREE DC

Free Speech For People

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Generation Vote

GOODProjects

Howard University

Indivisible

Indivisible Santa Fe

League of Conservation Voters

League of Women Voters of the District of Columbia

League of Women Voters of the United States

Long Live GoGo

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

National Action Network

National Association of Social Workers

National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund

National Organization for Women

National Women's Law Center Action Fund

Neighbors United for DC Statehood

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

Peace Action

People For the American Way

People Power United

Public Citizen

Reframe Health and Justice

Rev. Dr. Dollie Howell Pankey

Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ

Scott United Methodist Church

Secure Elections Network

Stand Up America

Task Force for Democracy

The Hustlers Guild

The Voter Participation Center

The Workers Circle

Transformative Justice Coalition

Voto Latino

Ward 3 Democratic Committee

Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs

Womxn From The Mountain