



National Federation of Democratic Women Resolution #7 Insisting the U.S. Senate Vote to Make the District of Columbia the 51st State

WHEREAS, it is unconscionable that in the year 2021 residents of the District of Columbia remain disenfranchised in Congress, an injustice reflecting the lingering racist legacy of Reconstruction. According to data recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C.'s population since 2010 has increased by 14.6%, to just below 690,000. This figure exceeds the population of two other states, Wyoming and Vermont, which, like every other state, enjoy full representation in both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, unlike states with governors, elected officials of the District of Columbia do not have full control over local affairs, such as the power to send in the National Guard, as witnessed during the January 6, 2021 U.S. Capitol Insurrection. In addition, D.C.'s residents pay more taxes than residents in 22 states and pay more per capita to the federal government than any other state; and

WHEREAS, new polling has found "record-high" support across the country for D.C. statehood (conducted by Data for Progress and Democracy for All 2021), and President Biden on April 20, 2021 formally announced the Administration's support of H.R. 51, the "Washington, D.C. Admission Act," noting that the lack of representation and self-governance is "an affront to the democratic values on which our Nation was founded."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women insists that the U.S. Senate follow the lead of the U.S. House of Representatives in debating and passing H.R. 51, admitting Washington, D.C. into the United States as the state of **Washington, Douglas Commonwealth**, so that its residents can fully participate in the democratic process.