

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD

WHEREAS, this nation is founded on the belief that all people are endowed with certain inalienable rights and that to secure these rights, governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, the United States is the formal union of states formed by their people and to have the full rights of self-government, one must be a citizen of a state; and

WHEREAS, statehood only requires a simple majority vote in each house of Congress and the President's signature and is the only form of self-government that Congress cannot amend or take away; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the people of the District of Columbia are the only Americans who bear all of the burdens of citizenship, but who do not enjoy all of the citizenship's benefits and remain effectively a colony; and

WHEREAS, Congress in the 1973 District of Columbia Self-Government and Government Re-organization Act, (the "Home Rule Act") has already carved out the federal core of the District, including the White House, Capitol, Supreme Court, Mall and monuments, as the National Capital Service Area and such area can constitutionally be the "Seat of the Government of the United States"; and

WHEREAS, District voters have overwhelmingly expressed their desire for statehood by voting in a 2016 advisory referendum in favor of statehood; and

WHEREAS, District residents pay the highest federal income tax per capita when compared to residents of any of the 50 states; and

WHEREAS, the District has passed 24 consecutive balanced budgets, achieved a "triple A" rating in 2018 and maintains enviable cash reserves. Washington, DC adds nearly 900 new residents per month; its \$16 billion local budget is funded by mostly local taxes and fees, the District has clearly proven its ability to self-govern; and

WHEREAS, statehood is the simplest and most constitutional way to make the people of the District of Columbia full citizens of the United States of America and is a matter of simple justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA:

Urges the Congress to use its powers under Article IV, Section 3 of the United States Constitution and admit the residential and commercial areas of the District of Columbia, minus the National Capital Service Area which shall henceforth be the Seat of the Government of the United States, as the 51st State of the Union.

Adopted:

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk