

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. C. R. No. 18

**Senator Ingram
Cosponsor: Senator Smith**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the Congress of the United States to grant 1
statehood to Washington, D.C. 2

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The people living on the land that would 3
eventually be designated as the District of Columbia were 4
provided the right to vote for representation in Congress when 5
the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788; and 6

WHEREAS, The passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the 7
District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of the 8
Congress of the United States and abolished the residents' right 9
to vote for members of Congress and the President and Vice 10
President of the United States; and 11

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia were granted 12
the right to vote for the President and Vice President through 13
passage of the Twenty-Third Amendment to the United States 14
Constitution in 1961; and 15

WHEREAS, As of 2025, the United States Census Bureau 16
estimates that the District of Columbia's population at 17
approximately 693,645 residents is comparable to the populations 18
of Wyoming (588,753), Vermont (644,663), Alaska (737,270), and 19

North Dakota (779,358); and 20

WHEREAS, Residents of the District of Columbia share all 21
the responsibilities of United States citizenship, including 22
paying more federal taxes than residents of 22 states, service 23
on federal juries, and defending the United States as members of 24
the United States armed forces in every war since the War for 25
Independence, yet they are denied full representation in 26
Congress; and 27

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia 28
themselves have endorsed statehood for the District of Columbia 29
and, on November 8, 2016, passed a district-wide referendum 30
favoring statehood by 86%; and 31

WHEREAS, No other democratic nation denies the right of 32
self-government, including participation in its national 33
legislature, to the residents of its capital; and 34

WHEREAS, The residents of the District of Columbia, without 35
voting representation in Congress, live under a system that is 36
not fully democratic, and therefore are not equal in political 37
power to residents of the 50 states; and 38

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has repeatedly 39
interfered with the District of Columbia's limited self- 40
government by enacting laws that affect the District of 41
Columbia's expenditure of its locally raised tax revenue, 42
including barring the usage of locally raised revenue, thus 43
violating the fundamental principle that states and local 44
governments are best suited to enact legislation that represents 45
the will of their citizens; and 46

WHEREAS, Although the District of Columbia has passed 47
consecutive balanced budgets since FY 1997, it still faces the 48
possibility of being shut down yearly because of Congressional 49
deliberations over the federal budget; and 50

WHEREAS, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes 51
Norton and Maryland United States Senator Chris Van Hollen 52
introduced in the 119th Congress H.R. 51 and S. 51, the 53
Washington, D.C. Admission Act, that provides that the State of 54
Washington, D.C. would have all the rights of citizenship as 55
taxpaying American citizens, including two Senators and at least 56
one House member; and 57

WHEREAS, The United Nations Human Rights Committee has 58
called on the Congress of the United States to address the 59
District of Columbia's lack of political equality, and the 60
Organization of American States has declared the 61
disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents a violation 62
of its charter agreement, to which the United States is a 63
signatory; now therefore be it 64

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 65
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the United 66
States to enact federal legislation granting statehood to the 67
people of Washington, D.C.; and be it further 68

RESOLVED, That we support the admission of Washington, D.C. 69
into the Union as a state of the United States of America; and 70
be it further 71

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of Senate transmit duly 72
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro 73
Tempore of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the 74
United States House of Representatives, to each member of the 75
Ohio Congressional delegation, and to the news media of Ohio. 76