

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5698

To provide that the authority to grant clemency for offenses against the District of Columbia shall be exercised in accordance with law enacted by the District of Columbia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2025

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To provide that the authority to grant clemency for offenses against the District of Columbia shall be exercised in accordance with law enacted by the District of Columbia.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia
5 Clemency Home Rule Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO GRANT CLEMENCY FOR CRIMES**
2 **UNDER LAWS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUM-**
3 **BIA.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY DESCRIBED.**—The authority to grant
5 clemency for crimes under the laws of the District of Co-
6 lumbia shall be exercised by such person or persons, and
7 under such terms and conditions, as may be provided
8 under law enacted by the District of Columbia.

9 (b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act
10 may be construed—

11 (1) to affect any authority exercised by the
12 President or the Mayor of the District of Columbia
13 prior to the effective date of any law enacted by the
14 District of Columbia pursuant to this Act with re-
15 spect to the authority to grant clemency for crimes
16 under the laws of the District of Columbia; or

17 (2) to limit the authority described in sub-
18 section (a) from being exercised with respect to
19 crimes committed before, on, or after the date of the
20 enactment of this Act.

21 (c) **CLEMENCY DEFINED.**—In this Act, the term
22 “clemency” means a pardon, reprieve, or commutation of
23 sentence, or a remission of a fine or other financial pen-
24 alty.

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