

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1285

To provide for full voting representation in Congress for the citizens of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2003

Ms. NORTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide for full voting representation in Congress for the citizens of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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 “No Taxation Without  
5 Representation Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The residents of the District of Columbia  
9 are the only Americans who pay Federal income

1 taxes but are denied voting representation in the  
2 House of Representatives and the Senate.

3 (2) The residents of the District of Columbia  
4 suffer the very injustice against which our Founding  
5 Fathers fought, because they do not have voting rep-  
6 resentation as other taxpaying Americans do and are  
7 nevertheless required to pay Federal income taxes  
8 unlike the Americans who live in the territories.

9 (3) The principle of one person, one vote re-  
10 quires that residents of the District of Columbia are  
11 afforded full voting representation in the House and  
12 the Senate.

13 (4) Despite the denial of voting representation,  
14 Americans in the Nation's Capital are second among  
15 residents of all States in per capita income taxes  
16 paid to the Federal Government.

17 (5) Unequal voting representation in our rep-  
18 resentative democracy is inconsistent with the found-  
19 ing principles of the Nation and the strongly held  
20 principles of the American people today.

21 **SEC. 3. REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS FOR DISTRICT OF**  
22 **COLUMBIA.**

23 For the purposes of congressional representation, the  
24 District of Columbia, constituting the seat of government  
25 of the United States, shall be treated as a State, such that

1 its residents shall be entitled to elect and be represented  
2 by 2 Senators in the United States Senate, and as many  
3 Representatives in the House of Representatives as a simi-  
4 larly populous State would be entitled to under the law.

5 **SEC. 4. ELECTIONS.**

6 (a) **FIRST ELECTIONS.**—

7 (1) **PROCLAMATION.**—Not later than 30 days  
8 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Mayor  
9 of the District of Columbia shall issue a proclama-  
10 tion for elections to be held to fill the 2 Senate seats  
11 and the seat in the House of Representatives to rep-  
12 resent the District of Columbia in Congress.

13 (2) **MANNER OF ELECTIONS.**—The proclama-  
14 tion of the Mayor of the District of Columbia re-  
15 quired by paragraph (1) shall provide for the holding  
16 of a primary election and a general election and at  
17 such elections the officers to be elected shall be cho-  
18 sen by a popular vote of the residents of the District  
19 of Columbia. The manner in which such elections  
20 shall be held and the qualification of voters shall be  
21 the same as those for local elections, as prescribed  
22 by the District of Columbia.

23 (3) **CLASSIFICATION OF SENATORS.**—In the  
24 first election of Senators from the District of Colum-  
25 bia, the 2 senatorial offices shall be separately iden-

1       tified and designated, and no person may be a can-  
2       didate for both offices. No such identification or des-  
3       ignation of either of the 2 senatorial offices shall  
4       refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of such  
5       offices, or in any way impair the privilege of the  
6       Senate to determine the class to which each of the  
7       Senators elected shall be assigned.

8       (b) CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION.—The results of  
9       an election for the Senators and Representative from the  
10      District of Columbia shall be certified by the Mayor of  
11      the District of Columbia in the manner required by law  
12      and the Senators and Representative shall be entitled to  
13      be admitted to seats in Congress and to all the rights and  
14      privileges of Senators and Representatives of the States  
15      in the Congress of the United States.

16      **SEC. 5. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERSHIP.**

17      (a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the date of enactment of  
18      this Act, the District of Columbia shall be entitled to 1  
19      Representative until the taking effect of the next reappor-  
20      tionment. Such Representative shall be in addition to the  
21      membership of the House of Representatives as now pre-  
22      scribed by law.

23      (b) INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP OF HOUSE OF REP-  
24      RESENTATIVES.—Upon the date of enactment of this Act,  
25      the permanent membership of the House of Representa-

1 tives shall increase by 1 seat for the purpose of future  
2 reapportionment of Representatives.

3 (c) REAPPORTIONMENT.—Upon reapportionment,  
4 the District of Columbia shall be entitled to as many seats  
5 in the House of Representatives as a similarly populous  
6 State would be entitled to under the law.

7 (d) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DELEGATE.—Until the  
8 first Representative from the District of Columbia is seat-  
9 ed in the House of Representatives, the Delegate in Con-  
10 gress from the District of Columbia shall continue to dis-  
11 charge the duties of his or her office.

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