

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3696

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia into the Union.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 19, 2012

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. BOXER)
introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the admission of the State of New Columbia
into the Union.

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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “New Columbia Admission Act”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents of
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—STATE OF NEW COLUMBIA

Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

Sec. 101. Admission into the Union.

Sec. 102. Process for admission.

- Sec. 103. Election of officials of State.
 Sec. 104. Issuance of presidential proclamation.

Subtitle B—Description of New Columbia Territory

- Sec. 111. Territories and boundaries of New Columbia.
 Sec. 112. Description of District of Columbia after admission of State.
 Sec. 113. Continuation of title to lands and property.

Subtitle C—General Provisions Relating to Laws of New Columbia

- Sec. 121. Limitation on authority of State to tax Federal property.
 Sec. 122. Effect of admission of State on current laws.
 Sec. 123. Continuation of judicial proceedings.
 Sec. 124. United States nationality.

TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT

- Sec. 201. Continuation of revised District of Columbia as seat of Federal Government.
 Sec. 202. Treatment of military lands.
 Sec. 203. Waiver of claims to Federal lands and property.
 Sec. 204. Permitting individuals residing in new seat of government to vote in Federal elections in State of most recent domicile.
 Sec. 205. Repeal of law providing for participation of District of Columbia in election of President and Vice President.
 Sec. 206. Expedited consideration of constitutional amendment.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. General definitions.
 Sec. 302. Certification of enactment by President.

1 **TITLE I—STATE OF NEW**
 2 **COLUMBIA**
 3 **Subtitle A—Procedures for**
 4 **Admission**

5 **SEC. 101. ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this
 7 Act, upon issuance of the proclamation required by section
 8 104(b), the State of New Columbia is declared to be a
 9 State of the United States of America, and is declared
 10 admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the other
 11 States in all respects whatever.

1 (b) CONSTITUTION OF STATE.—The State Constitu-
 2 tion shall always be republican in form and shall not be
 3 repugnant to the Constitution of the United States and
 4 the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

5 **SEC. 102. PROCESS FOR ADMISSION.**

6 (a) APPROVAL OF ADMISSION BY VOTERS OF DIS-
 7 TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

8 (1) ELECTION PROCEDURES.—At an election
 9 designated by proclamation of the Mayor, which may
 10 be the primary or the general election held pursuant
 11 to section 103(a), a general election, or a special
 12 election, there shall be submitted to the electors
 13 qualified to vote in such election the following propo-
 14 sitions for adoption or rejection:

15 “(A) New Columbia shall immediately be
 16 admitted into the Union as a State.

17 “(B) The proposed Constitution for the
 18 State of New Columbia, as adopted by the
 19 Council of the District of Columbia pursuant to
 20 the Constitution for the State of New Columbia
 21 Approval Act of 1987 (DC Law 7–8), shall be
 22 deemed ratified and shall replace the Constitu-
 23 tion for the State of New Columbia ratified on
 24 November 2, 1982.

1 “(C) The boundaries of the State of New
2 Columbia shall be as prescribed in the New Co-
3 lumbia Admission Act.

4 “(D) All provisions of the New Columbia
5 Admission Act, including provisions reserving
6 rights or powers to the United States and pro-
7 visions prescribing the terms or conditions of
8 the grants of lands or other property made to
9 the State of New Columbia, are consented to
10 fully by the State and its people.”.

11 (2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAYOR.—The Mayor
12 of the District of Columbia is authorized and di-
13 rected to take such action as may be necessary or
14 appropriate to ensure the submission of such propo-
15 sitions to the people. The return of the votes cast on
16 such propositions shall be made by the election offi-
17 cers directly to the Board of Elections of the Dis-
18 trict of Columbia, which shall certify the results of
19 the submission to the Mayor. The Mayor shall cer-
20 tify the results of such submission to the President
21 of the United States.

22 (b) EFFECT OF VOTE.—

23 (1) ADOPTION OF PROPOSITIONS.—In the event
24 the propositions described in subsection (a) are
25 adopted in an election under such subsection by a

1 majority of the legal votes cast on such submis-
2 sion—

3 (A) the State Constitution shall be deemed
4 ratified; and

5 (B) the President shall issue a proclama-
6 tion pursuant to section 104.

7 (2) REJECTION OF PROPOSITION.—In the event
8 any one of the propositions described in subsection
9 (a) is not adopted in an election under such sub-
10 section by a majority of the legal votes cast on such
11 submission, the provisions of this Act shall cease to
12 be effective.

13 **SEC. 103. ELECTION OF OFFICIALS OF STATE.**

14 (a) ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after
16 receiving certification of the enactment of this Act
17 from the President pursuant to section 302, the
18 Mayor of the District of Columbia shall issue a proc-
19 lamation for the first elections, subject to the provi-
20 sions of this section, for two Senators and one Rep-
21 resentative in Congress.

22 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ELECTION OF SEN-
23 ATORS.—In the election of Senators from the State
24 pursuant to paragraph (1), the 2 Senate offices shall
25 be separately identified and designated, and no per-

1 son may be a candidate for both offices. No such
2 identification or designation of either of the offices
3 shall refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of
4 such offices, or in any way impair the privilege of
5 the Senate to determine the class to which each of
6 the Senators elected shall be assigned.

7 (b) RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTION.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The proclamation of the
9 Mayor issued under subsection (a) shall provide for
10 the holding of a primary election and a general elec-
11 tion and at such elections the officers required to be
12 elected as provided in subsection (a) shall be chosen
13 by the qualified electors of the District of Columbia
14 in the manner required by law.

15 (2) CERTIFICATION OF RETURNS.—Election re-
16 turns shall be made and certified in the manner re-
17 quired by law, except that the Mayor shall also cer-
18 tify the results of such elections to the President of
19 the United States.

20 (c) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Upon the admission
21 of the State into the Union, the Senators and Representa-
22 tive elected at the election described in subsection (a) shall
23 be entitled to be admitted to seats in Congress and to all
24 the rights and privileges of Senators and Representatives
25 of other States in the Congress of the United States.

1 (d) TRANSFER OF OFFICES OF MAYOR AND MEM-
2 BERS AND CHAIR OF COUNCIL.—Upon the admission of
3 the State into the Union, the Mayor, members of the
4 Council, and the Chair of the Council at the time of admis-
5 sion shall be deemed the Governor, members of the House
6 of Delegates, and the President of the House of Delegates
7 of the State, respectively, as provided by the State Con-
8 stitution and the laws of the State.

9 (e) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY AND DUTIES AND
10 JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.—Upon the admis-
11 sion of the State into the Union, members of executive
12 and judicial offices of the District of Columbia shall be
13 deemed members of the respective executive and judicial
14 offices of the State, as provided by the State Constitution
15 and the laws of the State.

16 (f) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
17 TIVES MEMBERSHIP.—The State upon its admission into
18 the Union shall be entitled to one Representative until the
19 taking effect of the next reapportionment, and such Rep-
20 resentative shall be in addition to the membership of the
21 House of Representatives as now prescribed by law, except
22 that such temporary increase in the membership shall not
23 operate to either increase or decrease the permanent mem-
24 bership of the House of Representatives or affect the basis
25 of apportionment for the Congress.

1 **SEC. 104. ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—If the President finds that the
3 propositions set forth in section 102(a) have been duly
4 adopted by the people of the State, the President, upon
5 certification of the returns of the election of the officers
6 required to be elected as provided in section 103(a), shall,
7 not later than 90 days after receiving such certification,
8 issue a proclamation announcing the results of such elec-
9 tions as so ascertained.

10 (b) ADMISSION OF STATE UPON ISSUANCE OF PROC-
11 LAMATION.—Upon the issuance of the proclamation by the
12 President under subsection (a), the State shall be deemed
13 admitted into the Union as provided in section 101.

14 **Subtitle B—Description of New**
15 **Columbia Territory**

16 **SEC. 111. TERRITORIES AND BOUNDARIES OF NEW COLUM-**
17 **BIA.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
19 (b), the State shall consist of all of the territory of the
20 District of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of
21 this Act, subject to the results of the technical survey con-
22 ducted under subsection (c).

23 (b) EXCLUSION OF PORTION OF DISTRICT OF CO-
24 LUMBIA REMAINING AS NATIONAL CAPITAL.—The terri-
25 tory of the State shall not include the area described in
26 section 112, which shall remain as the District of Colum-

1 bia for purposes of serving as the seat of the government
2 of the United States.

3 (c) TECHNICAL SURVEY.—Not later than 6 months
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President
5 (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital
6 Planning Commission) shall conduct a technical survey of
7 the metes and bounds of the District of Columbia and of
8 the territory described in section 112(b).

9 **SEC. 112. DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AFTER**
10 **ADMISSION OF STATE.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the succeeding provi-
12 sions of this section, after the admission of the State into
13 the Union, the District of Columbia shall consist of the
14 property described in subsection (b) and shall include the
15 principal Federal monuments, the White House, the Cap-
16 itol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building,
17 and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office
18 buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the Capitol
19 Building.

20 (b) SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF METES AND
21 BOUNDS.—After the admission of the State into the
22 Union, the specific metes and bounds of the District of
23 Columbia shall be as follows:

24 Beginning at the point on the present Virginia-
25 District of Columbia boundary due west of the

1 northernmost point of Theodore Roosevelt Island
2 and running due east of the eastern shore of the Po-
3 tomac River;

4 thence generally south along the shore at the
5 mean high water mark to the northwest corner of
6 the Kennedy Center;

7 thence east along the north side of the Kennedy
8 Center to a point where it reaches the E Street Ex-
9 pressway;

10 thence east on the expressway to E Street
11 Northwest and thence east on E Street Northwest to
12 Eighteenth Street Northwest;

13 thence south on Eighteenth Street Northwest to
14 Constitution Avenue Northwest;

15 thence east on Constitution Avenue to Seven-
16 teenth Street Northwest;

17 thence north on Seventeenth Street Northwest
18 to Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;

19 thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue to Jackson
20 Place Northwest; thence north on Jackson Place to
21 H Street Northwest;

22 thence east on H Street Northwest to Madison
23 Place Northwest;

24 thence south on Madison Place Northwest to
25 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;

1 thence east on Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
2 to Fifteenth Street Northwest;
3 thence south on Fifteenth Street Northwest to
4 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest;
5 thence southeast on Pennsylvania Avenue
6 Northwest to John Marshall Place Northwest;
7 thence north on John Marshall Place Northwest
8 to C Street Northwest;
9 thence east on C Street Northwest to Third
10 Street Northwest;
11 thence north on Third Street Northwest to D
12 Street Northwest;
13 thence east on D Street Northwest to Second
14 Street Northwest;
15 thence south on Second Street Northwest to the
16 intersection of Constitution Avenue Northwest and
17 Louisiana Avenue Northwest;
18 thence northeast on Louisiana Avenue North-
19 west to North Capitol Street;
20 thence north on North Capitol Street to Massa-
21 chusetts Avenue Northwest;
22 thence southeast on Massachusetts Avenue
23 Northwest so as to encompass Union Square;
24 thence following Union Square to F Street
25 Northeast;

1 thence east on F Street Northeast to Second
2 Street Northeast;
3 thence south on Second Street Northeast to D
4 Street Northeast;
5 thence west on D Street Northeast to First
6 Street Northeast;
7 thence south on First Street Northeast to
8 Maryland Avenue Northeast;
9 thence generally north and east on Maryland
10 Avenue to Second Street Northeast;
11 thence south on Second Street Northeast to C
12 Street Southeast;
13 thence west on C Street Southeast to New Jer-
14 sey Avenue Southeast;
15 thence south on New Jersey Avenue Southeast
16 to D Street Southeast;
17 thence west on D Street Southeast to Wash-
18 ington Avenue Southwest;
19 thence southeast on Washington Avenue South-
20 west to E Street Southeast;
21 thence west on E Street Southeast to the inter-
22 section of Washington Avenue Southwest and South
23 Capitol Street;
24 thence northwest on Washington Avenue South-
25 west to Second Street Southwest;

1 thence south on Second Street Southwest to
2 Virginia Avenue Southwest;
3 thence generally west on Virginia Avenue to
4 Third Street Southwest;
5 thence north on Third Street Southwest to C
6 Street Southwest;
7 thence west on C Street Southwest to Sixth
8 Street Southwest;
9 thence north on Sixth Street Southwest to Inde-
10 pendence Avenue;
11 thence west on Independence Avenue to Twelfth
12 Street Southwest;
13 thence south on Twelfth Street Southwest to D
14 Street Southwest;
15 thence west on D Street Southwest to Four-
16 teenth Street Southwest;
17 thence south on Fourteenth Street Southwest to
18 the middle of the Washington Channel;
19 thence generally south and east along the
20 midchannel of the Washington Channel to a point
21 due west of the northern boundary line of Fort Les-
22 ley McNair;
23 thence due east to the side of the Washington
24 Channel;

1 thence following generally south and east along
 2 the side of the Washington Channel at the mean
 3 high water mark, to the point of confluence with the
 4 Anacostia River, and along the northern shore at the
 5 mean high water mark to the northernmost point of
 6 the Eleventh Street Bridge;

7 thence generally south and east along the
 8 northern side of the Eleventh Street Bridge to the
 9 eastern shore of the Anacostia River;

10 thence generally south and west along such
 11 shore at the mean high water mark to the point of
 12 confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers;

13 thence generally south along the eastern shore
 14 at the mean high water mark of the Potomac River
 15 to the point where it meets the present southeastern
 16 boundary line of the District of Columbia;

17 thence south and west along such southeastern
 18 boundary line to the point where it meets the
 19 present Virginia-District of Columbia boundary; and

20 thence generally north and west up the Poto-
 21 mac River along the present Virginia-District of Co-
 22 lumbia boundary to the point of beginning.

23 (c) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.—

24 (1) STREETS AND SIDEWALKS BOUNDING
 25 AREA.—After the admission of the State into the

1 Union, the District of Columbia shall be deemed to
 2 include any street (together with any sidewalk there-
 3 of) bounding the District of Columbia.

4 (2) EXCLUSION OF DISTRICT BUILDING.—Not-
 5 withstanding any other provision of this section, the
 6 District of Columbia shall not be considered to in-
 7 clude the District Building after the admission of
 8 the State into the Union.

9 (3) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN MILITARY PROP-
 10 ERTY.—After the admission of the State into the
 11 Union, the District of Columbia shall be deemed to
 12 include Fort Lesley McNair, the Washington Navy
 13 Yard, the Anacostia Naval Annex, the United States
 14 Naval Station, Bolling Air Force Base, and the
 15 Naval Research Laboratory.

16 **SEC. 113. CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS AND PROP-**
 17 **ERTY.**

18 (a) CONTINUATION OF TITLE TO LANDS OF DIS-
 19 TRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The State and its political
 21 subdivisions shall have and retain title or jurisdic-
 22 tion for purposes of administration and maintenance
 23 to all property, real and personal, with respect to
 24 which title or jurisdiction for purposes of adminis-
 25 tration and maintenance is held by the District of

1 Columbia on the day before the State is admitted
2 into the Union.

3 (2) CONVEYANCE OF INTEREST IN CERTAIN
4 BRIDGES AND TUNNELS.—On the day before the
5 State is admitted into the Union, the District of Co-
6 lumbia shall convey to the United States any and all
7 interest of the District of Columbia in any bridge or
8 tunnel that will connect the Commonwealth of Vir-
9 ginia with the District of Columbia after the admis-
10 sion of the State into the Union.

11 (b) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL TITLE TO PROP-
12 erty IN STATE.—The United States shall have and retain
13 title or jurisdiction for purposes of administration and
14 maintenance to all property in the State with respect to
15 which the United States holds title or jurisdiction on the
16 day before the State is admitted into the Union.

17 **Subtitle C—General Provisions**
18 **Relating to Laws of New Columbia**

19 **SEC. 121. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY OF STATE TO TAX**
20 **FEDERAL PROPERTY.**

21 The State may not impose any taxes upon any lands
22 or other property owned or acquired by the United States,
23 except to the extent as Congress may permit.

1 **SEC. 122. EFFECT OF ADMISSION OF STATE ON CURRENT**
2 **LAWS.**

3 (a) **LEGISLATIVE POWER OF STATE.**—The legislative
4 power of the State shall extend to all rightful subjects of
5 legislation within the State, consistent with the Constitu-
6 tion of the United States (including the restrictions and
7 limitations imposed upon the States by article I, section
8 10) and subject to the provisions of this Act.

9 (b) **TREATMENT OF FEDERAL LAWS.**—To the extent
10 that any law of the United States applies to the States
11 generally, the law shall have the same force and effect
12 within the State as elsewhere in the United States, except
13 as such law may otherwise provide.

14 **SEC. 123. CONTINUATION OF JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.**

15 (a) **PENDING PROCEEDINGS.**—

16 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—No writ, action, indictment,
17 cause, or proceeding pending in any court of the
18 District of Columbia or in the United States District
19 Court for the District of Columbia shall abate by
20 reason of the admission of the State into the Union,
21 but shall be transferred and shall proceed within
22 such appropriate State courts as shall be established
23 under the State Constitution, or shall continue in
24 the United States District Court for the District of
25 Columbia, as the nature of the case may require.

1 (2) SUCCESSION OF COURTS.—The appropriate
 2 courts of the State shall be the successors of the
 3 courts of the District of Columbia as to all cases
 4 arising within the limits embraced within the juris-
 5 diction of such courts, with full power to proceed
 6 with such cases, and award mesne or final process
 7 therein, and all files, records, indictments, and pro-
 8 ceedings relating to any such writ, action, indict-
 9 ment, cause, or proceeding shall be transferred to
 10 such appropriate State courts and shall be proceeded
 11 with therein in due course of law.

12 (b) UNFILED PROCEEDINGS BASED ON ACTIONS
 13 PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—All civil causes of action and all
 14 criminal offenses which shall have arisen or been com-
 15 mitted prior to the admission of the State into the Union,
 16 but as to which no writ, action, indictment, or proceeding
 17 shall be pending at the date of such admission, shall be
 18 subject to prosecution in the appropriate State courts or
 19 in the United States District Court for the District of Co-
 20 lumbia in like manner, to the same extent, and with like
 21 right of appellate review, as if the State had been admitted
 22 and such State courts had been established prior to the
 23 accrual of such causes of action or the commission of such
 24 offenses.

1 (c) MAINTENANCE OF RIGHTS TO AND JURISDICTION
2 OVER APPEALS.—

3 (1) CASES DECIDED PRIOR TO ADMISSION.—

4 Parties shall have the same rights of appeal from
5 and appellate review of final decisions of the United
6 States District Court for the District of Columbia or
7 the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in any
8 case finally decided prior to the admission of the
9 State into the Union, whether or not an appeal
10 therefrom shall have been perfected prior to such ad-
11 mission. The United States Court of Appeals for the
12 District of Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court
13 of the United States shall have the same jurisdiction
14 in such cases as by law provided prior to the admis-
15 sion of the State into the Union.

16 (2) CASES DECIDED AFTER ADMISSION.—Par-
17 ties shall have the same rights of appeal from and
18 appellate review of all orders, judgments, and de-
19 crees of the United States District Court for the
20 District of Columbia and of the highest court of the
21 State, as successor to the District of Columbia
22 Court of Appeals, in any case pending at the time
23 of admission of the State into the Union, and the
24 United States Court of Appeals for the District of
25 Columbia Circuit and the Supreme Court of the

1 United States shall have the same jurisdiction there-
 2 in, as by law provided in any case arising subsequent
 3 to the admission of the State into the Union.

4 (3) ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT MANDATES.—

5 Any mandate issued subsequent to the admission of
 6 the State shall be to the United States District
 7 Court for the District of Columbia or a court of the
 8 State, as appropriate.

9 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO FED-
 10 ERAL COURTS.—Effective upon the admission of the State
 11 into the Union—

12 (1) section 41 of title 28, United States Code,
 13 is amended in the second column by inserting “,
 14 New Columbia” after “District of Columbia”; and

15 (2) the first paragraph of section 88 of title 28,
 16 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

17 “The District of Columbia and the State of
 18 New Columbia comprise one judicial district.”.

19 **SEC. 124. UNITED STATES NATIONALITY.**

20 No provision of this Act shall operate to confer
 21 United States nationality, to terminate nationality lawfully
 22 acquired, or to restore nationality terminated or lost under
 23 any law of the United States or under any treaty to which
 24 the United States is or was a party.

1 **TITLE II—RESPONSIBILITIES**
2 **AND INTERESTS OF FEDERAL**
3 **GOVERNMENT**

4 **SEC. 201. CONTINUATION OF REVISED DISTRICT OF CO-**
5 **LUMBIA AS SEAT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

6 After the admission of the State into the Union, the
7 seat of the Government of the United States shall be the
8 District of Columbia as described in section 112 (also
9 known as “Washington, DC”).

10 **SEC. 202. TREATMENT OF MILITARY LANDS.**

11 (a) RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)
13 and subsection (b) and notwithstanding the admis-
14 sion of the State into the Union, authority is re-
15 served in the United States for the exercise by Con-
16 gress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases
17 whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land lo-
18 cated within the State that, immediately prior to the
19 admission of the State, are controlled or owned by
20 the United States and held for defense or Coast
21 Guard purposes.

22 (2) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The power of
23 exclusive legislation described in paragraph (1) shall
24 vest and remain in the United States only so long
25 as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is

1 controlled or owned by the United States and used
2 for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

3 (b) AUTHORITY OF STATE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority
5 in the United States for the exercise by the Congress
6 of the United States of the power of exclusive legis-
7 lation over military lands under subsection (a) shall
8 not operate to prevent such lands from being a part
9 of the State, or to prevent the State from exercising
10 over or upon such lands, concurrently with the
11 United States, any jurisdiction which it would have
12 in the absence of such reservation of authority and
13 which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted
14 by Congress pursuant to such reservation of author-
15 ity.

16 (2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State shall
17 have the right to serve civil or criminal process with-
18 in such tracts or parcels of land in which the author-
19 ity of the United States is reserved under subsection
20 (a) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of
21 rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes com-
22 mitted within the State but outside of such tracts or
23 parcels of land.

1 **SEC. 203. WAIVER OF CLAIMS TO FEDERAL LANDS AND**
2 **PROPERTY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—As a compact with the United
4 States, the State and its people disclaim all right and title
5 to any lands or other property not granted or confirmed
6 to the State or its political subdivisions by or under the
7 authority of this Act, the right or title to which is held
8 by the United States or subject to disposition by the
9 United States.

10 (b) EFFECT ON CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing contained in this
12 Act shall recognize, deny, enlarge, impair, or other-
13 wise affect any claim against the United States, and
14 any such claim shall be governed by applicable laws
15 of the United States.

16 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
17 Act is intended or shall be construed as a finding,
18 interpretation, or construction by the Congress that
19 any applicable law authorizes, establishes, recog-
20 nizes, or confirms the validity or invalidity of any
21 claim referred to in paragraph (1), and the deter-
22 mination of the applicability or effect of any law to
23 any such claim shall be unaffected by anything in
24 this Act.

1 **SEC. 204. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN NEW**
 2 **SEAT OF GOVERNMENT TO VOTE IN FEDERAL**
 3 **ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT**
 4 **DOMICILE.**

5 (a) REQUIREMENT FOR STATES TO PERMIT INDIVID-
 6 UALS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall—

8 (A) permit absent District of Columbia
 9 voters to use absentee registration procedures
 10 and to vote by absentee ballot in general, spe-
 11 cial, primary, and runoff elections for Federal
 12 office; and

13 (B) accept and process, with respect to any
 14 general, special, primary, or runoff election for
 15 Federal office, any otherwise valid voter reg-
 16 istration application from an absent District of
 17 Columbia voter, if the application is received by
 18 the appropriate State election official not less
 19 than 30 days before the election.

20 (2) ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTER DE-
 21 FINED.—In this section, the term “absent District
 22 of Columbia voter” means, with respect to a State—

23 (A) a person who resides in the District of
 24 Columbia after the admission of the State into
 25 the Union and is qualified to vote in the State,
 26 but only if the State is the last place in which

1 the person was domiciled before residing in the
 2 District of Columbia; or

3 (B) a person who resides in the District of
 4 Columbia after the admission of the State into
 5 the Union and (but for such residence) would
 6 be qualified to vote in the State, but only if the
 7 State is the last place in which the person was
 8 domiciled before residing in the District of Co-
 9 lumbia.

10 (3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term
 11 “State” means each of the several States, including
 12 the State of New Columbia.

13 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATES TO MAXIMIZE
 14 ACCESS TO POLLS BY ABSENT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 15 VOTERS.—To afford maximum access to the polls by ab-
 16 sent District of Columbia voters, it is recommended that
 17 the States—

18 (1) waive registration requirements for absent
 19 District of Columbia voters who, by reason of resi-
 20 dence in the District of Columbia, do not have an
 21 opportunity to register;

22 (2) expedite processing of balloting materials
 23 with respect to such individuals; and

24 (3) assure that absentee ballots are mailed to
 25 such individuals at the earliest opportunity.

1 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney General may
 2 bring a civil action in appropriate district court for such
 3 declaratory or injunctive relief as may be necessary to
 4 carry out this section.

5 (d) EFFECT ON CERTAIN OTHER LAWS.—The exer-
 6 cise of any right under this section shall not affect, for
 7 purposes of any Federal, State, or local tax, the residence
 8 or domicile of a person exercising such right.

9 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect
 10 upon the date of the admission of the State into the
 11 Union, and shall apply with respect to elections for Fed-
 12 eral office taking place on or after such date.

13 **SEC. 205. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION**
 14 **OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN ELECTION OF**
 15 **PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 3, United States Code, is
 17 amended by striking section 21.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 19 subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the admis-
 20 sion of the State into the Union, and shall apply to any
 21 election of the President and Vice President of the United
 22 States taking place on or after such date.

1 **SEC. 206. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITU-**
2 **TIONAL AMENDMENT.**

3 (a) EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—This
4 section is enacted by Congress—

5 (1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
6 the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-
7 spectively, and as such these provisions are deemed
8 a part of the rule of each House, respectively, but
9 applicable only with respect to the procedure to be
10 followed in that House in the case of a joint resolu-
11 tion described in subsection (b), and they supersede
12 other rules only to the extent that they are incon-
13 sistent therewith; and

14 (2) with full recognition of the constitutional
15 right of either House to change the rule (so far as
16 relating to the procedure of that House) at any time,
17 in the same manner and to the same extent as in
18 the case of any other rule of that House.

19 (b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF REPEAL OF
20 23RD AMENDMENT.—

21 (1) MOTION MADE IN ORDER.—At any time
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, it shall
23 be in order in either the House of Representatives
24 or the Senate to offer a motion to proceed to the
25 consideration of a joint resolution proposing an
26 amendment to the Constitution of the United States

1 repealing the 23rd article of amendment to the Con-
2 stitution.

3 (2) PROCEDURES RELATING TO MOTION.—With
4 respect to the motion described in paragraph (1),
5 the following rules shall apply:

6 (A) The motion is highly privileged and is
7 not debatable.

8 (B) An amendment to the motion is not in
9 order, and it is not in order to move to recon-
10 sider the vote by which the motion is agreed to
11 or disagreed to.

12 (C) A motion to postpone shall be decided
13 without debate.

14 **TITLE III—GENERAL** 15 **PROVISIONS**

16 **SEC. 301. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.**

17 In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

18 (1) The term “Council” means the Council of
19 the District of Columbia.

20 (2) The term “Governor” means the Governor
21 of the State of New Columbia.

22 (3) The term “Mayor” means the Mayor of the
23 District of Columbia.

24 (4) The term “State Constitution” means the
25 constitution of the State of New Columbia, as adopt-

1 ed by the Council of the District of Columbia in the
2 Constitution for the State of New Columbia Ap-
3 proval Act of 1987 (DC Law 7–8).

4 (5) Except as otherwise provided, the term
5 “State” means the State of New Columbia.

6 **SEC. 302. CERTIFICATION OF ENACTMENT BY PRESIDENT.**

7 Not more than 60 days after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the President shall certify such enactment to
9 the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

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