

REFERENCE TITLE: supporting statehood; Washington D.C.

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **HCR 2034**

Introduced by

Representatives Salman: Aguilar, Austin, Bravo, Cano, Contreras L, Contreras P, De Los Santos, Gutierrez, Hernandez A, Hernandez C, Hernandez L, Hernandez M, Longdon, Mathis, Ortiz, Peshlakai, Quiñonez, Sandoval, Schwiebert, Seaman, Shah, Stahl Hamilton, Sun, Travers, Tsosie, Senators Alston, Diaz, Epstein, Gabaldón, Hernandez, Mendez, Miranda, Terán

### **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR ADMITTING WASHINGTON, D.C. INTO THE UNION AS A STATE OF THE UNITED STATES.**

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

5           Whereas, the passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed the District  
6 of Columbia under the exclusive authority of the United States Congress  
7 and abolished residents' right to vote for members of Congress and the  
8 President and Vice President of the United States; and

9           Whereas, residents of the District of Columbia were granted the  
10 right to vote for the President and Vice President through passage of the  
11 23rd Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1961; and

12           Whereas, as of 2021, the United States Census Bureau data estimates  
13 that the District of Columbia's population, at approximately 689,545  
14 residents, is comparable to the populations of Wyoming (576,851), Vermont  
15 (643,077), Alaska (733,391) and North Dakota (779,094); and

16           Whereas, residents of the District of Columbia share all the  
17 responsibilities of United States citizenship, including paying more  
18 federal taxes than residents of 22 states, serving on federal juries and  
19 defending the United States as members of the United States armed forces  
20 in every war since the War for Independence, yet they are denied full  
21 representation in Congress; and

22           Whereas, the residents of the District of Columbia themselves have  
23 endorsed statehood for the District of Columbia and passed a districtwide  
24 referendum on November 8, 2016, which favored statehood by 86%; and

25           Whereas, no other democratic nation denies the right of  
26 self-government, including participation in its national legislature, to  
27 the residents of its capital; and

28           Whereas, the residents of the District of Columbia lack full  
29 democracy, equality and citizenship enjoyed by the residents of the 50  
30 states; and

31           Whereas, the United States Congress has repeatedly interfered with  
32 the District of Columbia's limited self-government by enacting laws that  
33 affect the District of Columbia's expenditure of its locally raised tax  
34 revenue, including barring the usage of locally raised revenue, thus  
35 violating the fundamental principle that states and local governments are  
36 best suited to enact legislation that represents the will of their  
37 citizens; and

38           Whereas, although the District of Columbia has passed consecutive  
39 balanced budgets since fiscal year 1996-1997, it still faces the  
40 possibility of being shut down yearly because of congressional  
41 deliberations over the federal budget; and

42           Whereas, in the 117th Congress, District of Columbia Delegate  
43 Eleanor Holmes Norton and Delaware's United States Senator Tom Carper  
44 introduced H.R. 51 and S. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, that  
45 provides that the State of Washington, D.C. would have all the rights of

1 citizenship as taxpaying American citizens, including two Senators and at  
2 least one House member; and

3       Whereas, the United Nations Human Rights Committee has called on the  
4 United States Congress to address the District of Columbia's lack of  
5 political equality, and the Organization of American States has declared  
6 the disenfranchisement of the District of Columbia residents a violation  
7 of its charter agreement, to which the United States is a signatory.

8 Therefore

9 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,  
10       the Senate concurring:

11       That the Members of the Legislature support admitting Washington,  
12 D.C. into the Union as a state of the United States of America and  
13 enacting federal legislation granting statehood to the people of  
14 Washington, D.C.