

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

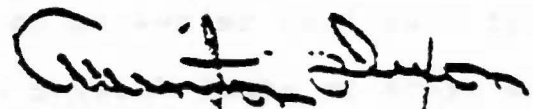
NOTICE

D.C. Law 3-171

"District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiative of 1979."

Pursuant to Amendment #1 of the District of Columbia Self Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P.L. 93-198, "the Act", the electors of the District of Columbia voted on Initiative No. 3 on November 4, 1980. On November 21, 1980, the Board of Elections and Ethics certified the Election results as 90,533 for the Initiative and 60,972 against the Initiative. Following the certification of the results, the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia transmitted Initiative No. 3 to Congress on December 1, 1980. This Initiative was resubmitted January 19, 1981 for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602 (c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional Review Period has expired, and therefore, cites this enactment as D.C. Law 3-171, effective March 10, 1981.



ARRINGTON DIXON
Chairman of the Council

Dates Counted During the 30-day Congressional Review Period:

January	19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
February	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27
March	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9

INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 3

BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To conduct an election for the purpose of presenting the proposition of the calling of a statewide constitutional convention, the election of delegates to the convention and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

That this measure may be cited as the "District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiative of 1979".

Sec. 2. The purpose of this initiative is to propose to the registered qualified electors of the District of Columbia the question of calling a statewide constitutional convention for the purpose of forming a constitution and otherwise providing a process for that portion of the territory now known as the District of Columbia, as specified below, to be admitted in the Union as a state on equal footing with the other states. The acts of the convention shall be submitted for ratification by the people, as provided for in this initiative.

DEFINITION

D.C. Code,
Title 1, Chapter
Subchapter IV,
Sec. 1-11. et seq.

Sec. 3. For the purpose of this initiative, the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics is authorized and directed to conduct at the next scheduled general, special or primary election held after the effective date of this initiative an election presenting to the registered qualified electors of the District of Columbia for their approval or disapproval the proposition of calling a statehood constitutional convention as well as a ballot pursuant to which such electors may elect, contingent upon the ratification of such proposition by a majority of the electors voting thereon, delegates to represent the residents of the District of Columbia at a constitutional convention.

D.C. Code,
sec. 1-112

Sec. 4. (a) Within sixty (60) days after the Board of Elections and Ethics has certified that the proposition referred to in the first section of this initiative has been ratified, the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall call a constitutional convention and assemble the elected delegates. The convention shall write a constitution which shall be republican in form and shall not be repugnant to the Constitution or laws

D.C. Code,
sec. 1-113

of the United States, and it shall otherwise prepare for the admission of the territory now known as the District of Columbia as a state.

(b) Within one hundred and twenty days (120) of the completion of the writing of the constitution, the Mayor shall take whatever steps are necessary and appropriate to submit the proposed constitution at an election to the registered qualified electors for their adoption or rejection, as well as a ballot pursuant to which such electors may elect their representatives to the Congress of the United States. In the event the constitution is adopted by a majority of the electors voting thereon, the constitution shall be submitted to the Congress of the United States by the officially elected Senators and Representatives of the District.

(1) The qualifications and procedure for nominating candidates for the offices of Senator and Representatives from the District of Columbia to the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, shall be in accordance with the Constitution of the United States.

(c) If a majority of the registered qualified electors voting reject the constitution, — the Mayor shall immediately call for the reassembly of the constitutional convention and thereafter a new constitution shall be framed and the same proceedings shall be taken for its submission to the electors of the District of Columbia. The election of candidates for the offices of Senators and Representatives from the District of Columbia shall not be voided by the reelection of the constitution.

Sec. 5. (a) The constitutional convention authorized by this initiative shall consist of forty-five (45) delegates selected in the following manner: five delegates elected at large; and five delegates elected from each of the eight election wards.

(b) Candidates for at-large delegates shall file with the Board of Elections and Ethics a nominating petition signed by at least two hundred of the registered qualified electors of the District of Columbia such that there will be at least twenty-five certified signatures from each of the eight election wards. The two candidates

for the position of at-large delegate who receive the highest and second highest number of votes shall serve for a term of four (4) years and the remaining three candidates elected at-large serve for a term of two (2) years.

(c) Candidates for the ward delegate positions shall file with the board of elections and ethics a nominating petition signed by at least fifty (50) of the registered qualified electors from the election ward from which the candidate seeks nomination. The five (5) candidates from each of the eight election wards receiving the highest number of votes in succeeding order will be declared the winners. The two (2) candidates from each of the eight election wards receiving the highest number of votes shall serve for a term of four (4) years and the remaining three (3) candidates from each of the eight election wards elected for the ward delegate positions shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

(d) Each of the elected delegates as authorized by subsection (a) of this section, shall be entitled to receive \$30.00 per diem when

engaged in the performance of the duties of the constitutional convention.

(e) A delegate to the Statehood Constitutional Convention may hold no other elected or appointed position in the District of Columbia or of the United States Government.

(f) The District of Columbia Government shall furnish such space in public buildings for the constitutional convention as is necessary to accommodate public attendance at convention hearings, meetings, and sessions, and shall provide all records and services as may be required by the constitutional convention for carrying out its function.

(g) There is hereby authorized an appropriation from the general fund of the District of Columbia a sum not in excess of \$400,000 to the Constitutional Convention for such expenses as it may have in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this initiative.

(h) There is hereby authorized an appropriation from the general fund of the District of Columbia a sum not in excess of \$50,000 to the Board of Elections and Ethics for

the administration of the elections authorized in sections 3 and 4(b) of this initiative, and in otherwise carrying out the provisions of this initiative.

Sec. 6. (a) The constitutional convention shall have the power to establish a commission to be known as the "Statehood Commission" which shall consist of twenty-four (24) members, three (3) appointed from each of the eight election wards of the District of Columbia.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Statehood Commission to educate, advocate, promote and advance the proposition of statehood for the District of Columbia within the District and the Federal level.

(c) There is hereby authorized an appropriation from the General Fund of the District of Columbia a sum not in excess of \$250,000 to the Statehood Commission for such expenses as it may have in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this initiative.

Sec. 7. (a) The constitutional convention shall have the power to establish a commission to be known as the "Statehood Compact Commission".

which shall consist of members of the Statehood Commission" as may be deemed necessary by the convention, as well as, an equal number of members representing the federal government as may be authorized by the President or the Congress of the United States.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Statehood

Compact Commission:

(1) To conduct a full and complete study of the necessary and appropriate legislation and administrative action that must be taken in order to facilitate the transfer of authority and functions over that portion of the District of Columbia which will comprise the new state;

(2) To give special consideration to the relationship that should be developed to secure and maintain any special federal interest in the new state;

(3) To submit to the constitutional convention full and detailed reports with findings and recommendations; and,

(4) To inform the citizenry on a daily basis of the progress of the Convention through a newspaper of general circulation.

(c) There is hereby authorized an appropriation from the general fund of the District of Columbia a sum not in excess of \$50,000 to the Statehood Compact Commission for such expenses as it may have in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under this initiative.

Sec. 3. The District of Columbia Government shall accept the full responsibility of its elected representatives during their term of office as members of the Congress in accordance with the standards of the United States Congress (Congressional staffing and budget).

D.C. Code,
sec. 1-117

Sec. 9. If any provisions of section of this measure or the application thereof, shall in any circumstances be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the provisions or applications.

D.C. Code,
sec. 1-118

Sec. 10. This measure shall take effect as provided for initiative measures of the Electors of the District of Columbia in section 5 of Public Law 95-526 sec. 1(3), amending the Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Charter Amendment Act of 1977 (D.C. Law 2-46), and in section 602(c) of the

District of Columbia Self-Government and
Governmental Reorganization Act.