

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4290

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING VOTING REPRESENTATION
IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WHEREAS, in recent years there have been several efforts to secure voting representation in Congress for residents of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, in the 109th Congress, the District of Columbia Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act of 2006 (H.R. 5388) was co-sponsored by bi-partisan members of the National Capital Region congressional delegation and was favorably reported by the Committee on Government Reform, however, no action was taken by the U.S. House of Representatives or U.S. Senate; and

WHEREAS, in the 110th Congress, the District of Columbia Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act of 2007 (H.R. 328) has again been co-sponsored by bi-partisan members of the National Capital Region congressional delegation, and which defines the District of Columbia as a Congressional District for purposes of voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 328 will be reintroduced by Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton and members of the National Capital Region congressional delegation, and others, as the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2007 the week of March 11, providing voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for the District of Columbia and shall be the legislative vehicle to advance this effort in the 110th Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments agrees with the bipartisan sponsors of legislation supporting voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for the District of Columbia, that

- Over half a million people living in the District of Columbia, the capital of our democratic Nation, lack direct voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate;
- District of Columbia residents have fought and died to defend our democracy in every war since the War of Independence;
- District of Columbia residents pay billions of dollars in Federal taxes each year;
- Our Nation is founded on the principles of 'one person, one vote' and 'government by the consent of the governed'; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments believes that this legislation, with its bipartisan support and with its maintenance of the current partisan balance in the U.S. House of Representatives, offers Members of Congress an opportunity to support voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for residents of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, development and advocacy of positions on behalf of the National Capital Region will be enhanced by the opportunity for voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for the District of Columbia.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

- (1) COG supports legislation establishing voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for the District of Columbia.
- (2) COG authorizes and directs the Chair to communicate this Resolution to all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate representing the National Capital Region and to the Congressional leadership and Committees of jurisdiction.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

- 1) She is the duly appointed, qualified and acting Certifying Officer of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, and keeper of the records thereof, including the journal of its proceedings.
- 2) The copy of the Resolution R16-07 annexed hereto entitled:

“Resolution Supporting Voting Representation in the U.S. House of Representatives for the District of Columbia”

is the original resolution as finally adopted at a meeting held on March 14, 2007, which was duly convened in conformity with all applicable requirements; a proper quorum present throughout said meeting; and the resolution was duly proposed, considered, and adopted in conformity with applicable requirements.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments this 16th day of March, 2007.

(SEAL)

Nicole Hange
Clerk, Board of Directors