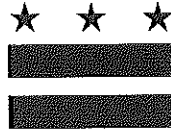


Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
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RESOLUTION REGARDING DC COUNCIL BILL B21-826 (DC STATEHOOD)
September 20, 2016

WHEREAS, the five-member New Columbia Statehood Commission, co-chaired by the Mayor and DC Council Chairman and also including the elected congressional statehood delegation has recommended that the 13-member DC Council petition Congress in 2017 to enact a statehood Admission Act; and

WHEREAS, the New Columbia Statehood Commission has approved boundaries to be proposed to Congress which would divide the District of Columbia into a small Seat of Federal Government and a much larger State of New Columbia; and

WHEREAS, the New Columbia Statehood Commission decided to propose an initial structure of the State of New Columbia government quite similar to the current structure of District of Columbia government; and

WHEREAS, the New Columbia Statehood Commission has proposed a draft Constitution for the State of New Columbia to be recommended to Congress by the DC Council, which is included in pending Bill B21-826; and

WHEREAS, the DC Council has scheduled public hearings on Bill B21-826 for September 27 and October 6, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the DC Council Chairman has indicated an intention to markup Bill B21-826 and pass it on First and Second Readings before the end of 2016 and the Mayor anticipates signing that legislation in all likelihood; and

WHEREAS, Bill B21-826 provides for submission of legislation so signed by the Mayor to Congress for its "30-day" passive review pursuant to the Home Rule Charter, which probably could not begin until after the new Congress is seated in January 2017; and

WHEREAS, Congress may change or require changes in the proposed Constitution, proposed boundaries, or other aspects as prerequisites to statehood before or after enactment of an Admission Act; and

WHEREAS, for the sake of fiscal integrity it would be wise for Bill B21-826 as marked up by the

DC Council not to diminish independent powers of the DC Auditor and not to subordinate the now-independent Chief Financial Officer to the Governor of New Columbia; and

WHEREAS, for the sake of good government it would be wise for Bill B21-826 as marked up by the DC Council to preserve unmistakably the independent powers of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, Public Service Commission, Water and Sewer Authority, and Zoning Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent to improve Bill B21-826 to assure clarifications, as provided below, in case Congress approves statehood; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Referendum on the November 8 ballot will if approved merely advise the DC Council to petition the Congress for statehood, but will not legislate;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F urges the DC Council include in its markup of Bill B21-826 language that

a) clearly preserves the independent powers of DC Auditor, Chief Financial Officer, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, Public Service Commission, Water and Sewer Authority, and the Zoning Commission, undiminished and uninterrupted from the moment statehood becomes effective; and

b) upon approval of statehood by Congress, provides DC voters with the opportunity to ratify or disapprove in binding referendum the Constitution, boundaries, and any other terms and conditions to statehood as Congress may prescribe in the Admission Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioners Nugent and Jakopchek are authorized to speak on behalf of ANC 3F regarding this matter.

ANC 3F approved this resolution at its meeting on September 20, 2016, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.



Malachy Nugent
Chair, ANC 3F