

THERE'S NO DEMOCRACY WITHOUT D.C. STATEHOOD

How you can help safeguard local freedoms by supporting D.C. Statehood

The people who live in D.C. are just like people who live in any other state. We are veterans, nurses, grocery store clerks, teachers, restaurant workers, volunteers, family members, and neighbors. We deserve to govern ourselves.

And yet, Washington, D.C. is the only national capital in the democratic world whose citizens don't have equal voting and representation rights.

Because D.C. is not a state, Congress—where District residents have no vote—and the President have the legal ability to override the will of the people and micromanage local laws, local tax dollars, and aspects of public safety. As long as D.C. is denied statehood, extreme politicians in the federal government can use D.C. as a testing ground to see how they can grab power in cities and states across the country.

At a time when Americans across the country are struggling with rising costs, we need members of Congress to focus on bringing real results home to their constituents, not micromanaging the people of D.C.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN D.C. DOESN'T HAVE STATEHOOD?

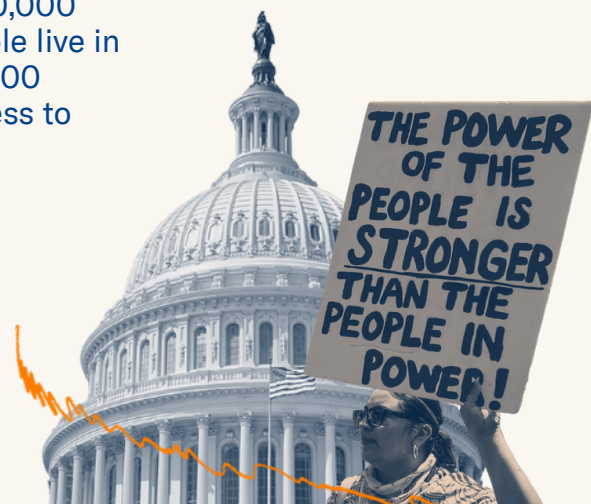
VOTER SUPPRESSION

The denial of statehood to the people of D.C. remains one of the most egregious forms of voter suppression happening in our country today. Without statehood, D.C. residents don't have any voting representation in Congress and are required to get Congressional approval just to pass their own local laws.

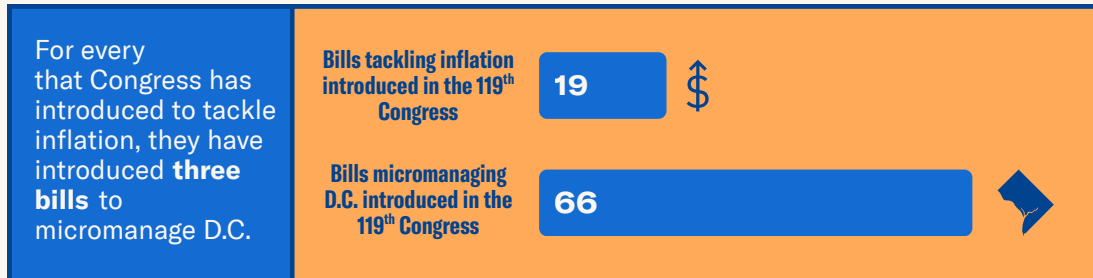
Washington, D.C. is a diverse, thriving community with about 700,000 residents, the majority of whom are Black and brown. More people live in D.C. than in Wyoming or Vermont. Over 30,000 veterans and 11,000 active-duty servicemembers call D.C. home but do not have access to the same full democratic representation guaranteed to citizens throughout the rest of the country.

UNFAIR FEDERAL OVERREACH

History has shown that it's deeply inefficient for Congress to spend its time on things like how trash gets picked up in D.C. neighborhoods.



But Congress can overturn local D.C. laws, write their own laws for the people of D.C., and dictate how local tax dollars are spent. **Voters did not elect their members of Congress to micromanage D.C. or to trample local democracy and freedom.**



WHAT HAPPENS IN D.C. DOESN'T STAY IN D.C.

The federal government has a long history of using D.C. to test extremist policies. Just after the Civil War, Congress stripped District residents of their voting rights at a time when many Black people were moving to D.C. and exercising their political rights.

Today, extreme politicians in Congress are using D.C. as a testing ground to see if they can grab power in other states and cities. Before the awful killings in Minnesota, Trump flooded D.C. streets with ICE agents and National Guard troops.

Imagine Congress having the power to overturn or dictate laws for your state. But the situation is even worse for D.C. because they don't even have a voting representative in Congress.

It would really be like telling members of Congress from your state to leave the room while politicians from the rest of the country determine local laws and budgets for the state. **When you put it in perspective, it really makes no democratic sense at all.**

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT D.C. STATEHOOD AND SAFEGUARD AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

We can't let the federal government trample local freedoms and democracy anywhere – especially not in our nation's capital. Statehood would grant D.C. residents equal voting and representation rights to protect us against federal overreach, just like everyone living in any other state in America.

But people who live in D.C. cannot achieve statehood on our own. We need your help.

Tell Congress: Support D.C. Statehood. Support Democracy For All.



aclsdc.org/dcstatehood