

Peter Lynch
Washington D.C.
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In Support of the concurrent resolution urging Congress to support admitting Washington, D.C. into the Union as a state of the United States.

Hello good people of North Dakota and state representatives,

I was born and raised in Washington D.C. It is home to me and I care about it deeply. Last year I served my first term as a local representative serving around 2,000 residents. During the day I am a high school English teacher.

Unfortunately, without statehood, laws enacted by our city Council can be rejected, changed, or meddled with by Congressional representatives that have no connection to us. These neighbors are friends, family, and the folks who make up the community we all call home. They are service members, veterans, teachers, nurses, doctors, mechanics, hospitality workers, faith leaders, businessmen and more; but not one of them has a say in the direction of this country through the laws enacted in Congress. Without Statehood we have no voice.

We are not asking for anything extra or any special treatment. Our call is the same as the Colonial patriots of 1776—"no taxation without representation." We are fine with being taxed and paying our fair share. We actually pay more federal taxes per capita than any state and more federal taxes overall than 19 states. We bear all the responsibilities of citizenship, and gladly so, but receive none of the benefits without statehood.

My nieces are 5th generation Washingtonians, this is their home, and I hope they are the last generation that goes without full American citizenship. We hope you will support our effort to become the 51st State and look forward to the day when we can join the people of North Dakota in making our Union a more perfect place. Thank you for your consideration.

Peter Lynch