

DC STATEHOOD 2016: Our November 8 ballot will include the following **YES** or **NO** choice –

“ADVISORY REFERENDUM”

Short Title

“Advisory Referendum on the State of New Columbia Admission Act Resolution of 2016”.

Summary Statement

To ask the voters on November 8, 2016, through an advisory referendum, whether the Council should petition Congress to enact a statehood admission act to admit the State of New Columbia to the Union. Advising the Council to approve this proposal would establish that the citizens of the District of Columbia (“District”) (1) agree that the District should be admitted to the Union as the State of New Columbia; (2) approve of a Constitution of the State of New Columbia to be adopted by the Council; (3) approve the State of New Columbia’s boundaries, as adopted by the New Columbia Statehood Commission on June 28, 2016; and (4) agree that the State of New Columbia shall guarantee an elected representative form of government.

Shall the voters of the District of Columbia advise the Council to approve or reject this proposal?

YES, to approve _____

NO, to reject _____

- As Americans, we should be responsible for our own self government. Today we are not:
 - Congress, where we have no vote and which does not represent us, is our "State legislature"
 - using us to score points with their constituents but finding no time for useful oversight.
 - Today, the President is our "Governor"
 - appointing our judges and prosecutors, commanding our National Guard.

- Congress denies our civil rights.

DC residents deserve the same rights and representation enjoyed by all other American citizens. DC is the only capital city of a democracy denied a vote for its national legislature even though we pay more total federal taxes than 22 states and more per capita than any state.

[~\$38,000 per person. DE is second at ~\$24,000].

We also tax ourselves, yet Congress can direct how DC spends its local tax and fee revenues.

- I will testify on ideas for improving the draft Constitution when the DC Council holds public hearings (on September 27 and October 6) on Bill B21-826 which includes text of draft Constitution.

[<http://lms.dccouncil.us/Download/36236/B21-0826-Introduction.pdf>]

- Map shows proposed boundaries for new state and remaining seat of federal government.

[<http://statehood.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/statehood/publication/attachments/Eric-Shaw-Boundary-Testimony-for-NCSC.pdf>]

Questions: go to the statehood.dc.gov website

- email statehood@dc.gov, or • call 202-724-7173

It's "YES" or "NO": Please tell friends, neighbors, family, coworkers.

Significant facts:

DC has more residents than VT and WY.

No minimum land size is required to become a state.

No constitutional amendment is required. Congress admits states by ordinary Act.

DC has a strong financial position – with 21 balanced budgets – and a \$13 billion

FY16 budget from local taxes and fees.

DC residents serve in the military and on federal juries.

