

AN ACT

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Codification
District of
Columbia
Official Code*

2001 Edition

2010 Summer
Supp.

West Group
Publisher

To establish the 51st State Commission to advocate for, and promote the proposition of, statehood for the District of Columbia.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “51st State Commission Establishment Act of 2010”.

Sec. 2. Establishment of the 51st State Commission.

(a) There is established the 51st State Commission (“Commission”), which shall educate regarding, advocate for, promote, and advance the proposition of, statehood for the District of Columbia to District residents and citizens of the 50 states of the United States and conduct a full and complete study of the necessary and appropriate legislation and administrative action that must be taken to establish the District of Columbia as a state of the United States of America with all constitutional rights. The Commission shall be comprised of:

- (1) The Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia, or his or her designee;
- (2) The Mayor, or his or her designee;
- (3) Members of the Council, including the Chairman of the Council, or their designees;
- (4) The United States Senators and United States Representative elected pursuant to section 4(d) of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiative of 1979, effective March 10, 1908 (D.C. Law 3-171; D.C. Official Code §1-123(d)), or their designees;
- (5) A Commission Chairman with a background in constitutional law to be elected by members of the Commission;
- (6) One member from each ward, appointed by the corresponding ward Councilmember, with a background in constitutional law or history or with demonstrated experience promoting District of Columbia statehood efforts; and
- (7) The Executive Director of the Washington, D.C. Historical Society.

(b)(1) Each Commission member appointed pursuant to subsection (a)(6) of this section shall serve for a term which shall run concurrent with the Council period of the Council in which he or she was appointed.

- (2) A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original

appointment was made for the remaining balance of the term.

(3) Members shall serve without compensation.

(c) The Commission shall elect an Executive Board consisting of 9 members, including the Commission Chairman, which shall be responsible for:

(1) Presiding over and conducting all Commission meetings; and

(2) Preparing and assembling all final reports, findings, and recommendations.

(d) The Commission shall:

(1) Give special consideration to the relationship that should be developed to secure and maintain any special federal interest in the new state;

(2) Submit to the United States Congress and the Council detailed reports with findings and recommendations within 180 days of the Commission's 1st meeting for the establishment of the new state; and

(3) Recommend programs and other initiatives that educate and promote efforts regarding the need for statehood for the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. Operations of the 51st State Commission.

(a) Within 45 days after the effective date of this act, the Mayor and the Council shall appoint the respective members of the Commission.

(b) Within 90 days after the effective date of this act, the Commission shall adopt rules and procedures governing its meetings and decision-making processes.

(c) The Commission shall hold a minimum of 6 meetings during each fiscal year.

(d) The Commission shall hold its initial organizational meeting upon the appointment of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Commission members.

Sec. 4. Applicability.

This act shall apply upon the inclusion of its fiscal effect in an approved budget and financial plan.

Sec. 5. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code §1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 6. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24,

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia