

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2071

To amend the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act to eliminate Congressional review of newly-passed District laws, to provide the District of Columbia with autonomy over its budgets, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 1993

Ms. NORTON (for herself and Mr. McDERMOTT) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on the District of Columbia and Rules

A BILL

To amend the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act to eliminate Congressional review of newly-passed District laws, to provide the District of Columbia with autonomy over its budgets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES IN ACT.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “District of Columbia Legislative and Budget Autonomy
6 Act of 1993”.

1 (b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Whenever in this Act an
2 amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to or
3 repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall
4 be considered to be made to that section or other provision
5 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Govern-
6 mental Reorganization Act.

7 **SEC. 2. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUDGET AUTONOMY.**

8 (a) ENACTMENT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUDG-
9 ET WITHOUT FURTHER CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 446 (sec. 47–304,
11 D.C. Code) is amended by striking the third, fourth,
12 and fifth sentences and inserting the following: “Ex-
13 cept as provided in section 467(d), section 471(c),
14 section 472(d)(2), section 483(d), and subsections
15 (f) and (g)(3) of section 490, no amount may be ob-
16 ligated or expended by any officer or employee of the
17 District of Columbia government unless such
18 amount has been approved by Act of Congress, an
19 act of the Council, or a directive of the President
20 under section 740, and then only in accordance with
21 such authorization.”.

22 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(A) Sections
23 467(d), 471(c), 472(d)(2), and 483(d) and sub-
24 sections (f) and (g)(3) of section 490 are each

1 amended by striking “fourth sentence” and inserting
2 “second sentence”.

3 (B) Section 412(a) (D.C. Code, sec. 1–229(a))
4 is amended by striking “(other than an act to which
5 section 446 applies)”.

6 (3) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—(A) The heading
7 of section 446 is amended to read as follows:

8 “ENACTMENT OF BUDGET BY THE COUNCIL”

9 (B) The item relating to section 446 in the
10 table of contents is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 446. Enactment of budget by the Council.”.

11 (b) ACTION BY COUNCIL OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
12 ON BUDGET ACTS.—Section 404(f) (sec. 1–227(f), D.C.
13 Code) is amended by striking “transmitted by the Chair-
14 man to the President of the United States” both places
15 it appears and inserting “incorporated in such Act”.

16 (c) PERMITTING EMPLOYEES TO BE HIRED IF POSI-
17 TION AUTHORIZED BY ACT OF THE COUNCIL.—Section
18 447 (sec. 47–305, D.C. Code) is amended—

19 (1) by inserting “or act of the Council” after
20 “Act of Congress” both places it appears; and

21 (2) by inserting “and acts of the Council” after
22 “Acts of Congress”.

23 (d) AMENDMENTS TO LIMITATIONS ON BORROWING
24 AND SPENDING BY THE DISTRICT TO REFLECT CHANGES
25 IN BUDGET PROCESS.—

1 (1) FEDERAL AUTHORITY OVER BUDGET-MAK-
2 ING PROCESS.—Section 603 (sec. 47–313, D.C.
3 Code) is amended—

4 (A) by striking subsections (a) and (d);
5 and

6 (B) by redesignating subsections (b), (c),
7 and (e) as subsections (a), (b), and (c).

8 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(A) Section
9 443(8) (sec. 47–302(8), D.C. Code) is amended by
10 striking “section 603(b)” and inserting “section
11 603(a)”.

12 (B) Section 445 (sec. 47–304, D.C. Code) is
13 amended by striking “603(c)” and inserting
14 “603(b)”.

15 (C) Section 461(a)(1) (sec. 47–321(a), D.C.
16 Code) is amended by striking “section 603(b)” and
17 inserting “section 603(a)”.

18 (D) Section 487(a) (sec. 43–615(a), D.C. Code)
19 is amended by striking “section 603(b)” and insert-
20 ing “section 603(a)”.

21 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
22 this section shall apply to budgets of the District of Co-
23 lumbia for fiscal years beginning on or after October 1,
24 1993.

1 **SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF**
2 **NEWLY-PASSED DISTRICT LAWS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 602 (sec. 1–233, D.C.
4 Code) is amended by striking subsection (c).

5 (b) CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTIONS OF DIS-
6 APPROVAL.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia
8 Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization
9 Act is amended by striking section 604.

10 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
11 tents is amended by striking the item relating to sec-
12 tion 604.

13 (3) EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWER.—This
14 subsection and the amendments made by this sub-
15 section are enacted by Congress—

16 (A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power
17 of the House of Representatives and the Sen-
18 ate, respectively, and as such they shall be con-
19 sidered as a part of the rules of each House, re-
20 spectively, or of that House to which they spe-
21 cifically apply, and such rules shall supersede
22 other rules only to the extent that they are in-
23 consistent therewith; and

24 (B) with full recognition of the constitu-
25 tional right of either House to change such
26 rules (so far as relating to such House) at any

1 time, in the same manner, and to the same ex-
2 tent as in the case of any other rule of such
3 House.

4 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 303
5 (sec. 1–205, D.C. Code) is amended—

6 (A) in subsection (a), by striking the second
7 sentence; and

8 (B) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating
9 subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c).

10 (2) Section 404(e) (sec. 1–227(e), D.C. Code) is
11 amended by striking “subject to the provisions of section
12 602(c)” each place it appears.

13 (3) Section 462 (sec. 47–322, D.C. Code) is amend-
14 ed—

15 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “(a) The
16 Council” and inserting “The Council”; and

17 (B) by striking subsections (b) and (c).

18 (4) Section 472(d) (sec. 47–328, D.C. Code) is
19 amended by striking “(1) Notwithstanding” and all that
20 follows through “(2)”.

21 (5) Section 2(b)(1) of Amendment No. 1 (relating to
22 initiative and referendum) to title IV (the District Char-
23 ter) (sec. 1–282(b)(1), D.C. Code) is amended by striking
24 “the appropriate custodian” and all that follows through
25 “portion of such act to”.

1 (6) Section 5 of Amendment No. 1 (relating to initia-
2 tive and referendum) to title IV (the District Charter)
3 (sec. 1–285, D.C. Code) is amended by striking “, and
4 such act” and all that follows and inserting a period.

5 (7) Section 16 of the District of Columbia Election
6 Code of 1955 (sec. 1–1320, D.C. Code)—

7 (A) in subsection (j)(2)—

8 (i) by striking “sections 404 and 602(c)”
9 and inserting “section 404”, and

10 (ii) by striking the second sentence; and

11 (B) in subsection (m)—

12 (i) in the first sentence, by striking “the
13 appropriate custodian” and all that follows
14 through “parts of such act to”,

15 (ii) by striking “is held. If, however, after”
16 and inserting “is held unless, under”, and

17 (iii) by striking “section, the act which”
18 and all that follows and inserting “section.”.

19 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
20 this section shall apply with respect to each act of the Dis-
21 trict of Columbia—

22 (1) passed by the Council of the District of Co-
23 lumbia and signed by the Mayor of the District of
24 Columbia;

1 (2) vetoed by the Mayor and repassed by the
2 Council;

3 (3) passed by the Council and allowed to be-
4 come effective by the Mayor without the Mayor's sig-
5 nature; and

6 (4) in the case of initiated acts and acts subject
7 to referendum, ratified by a majority of the reg-
8 istered qualified electors voting on the initiative or
9 referendum,
10 on or after October 1, 1993.

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