

S 51

Washington, D.C. Admission Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Jan 9, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Jan 9, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/51>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MD • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (43 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alsobrooks, Angela [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Kim, Andy [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Welch, Peter [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 9, 2025
Sen. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Feb 11, 2025

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 10, 2025
Sen. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 29, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 9, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 51	Identical bill	Jan 3, 2025: Referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, Armed Services, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Summary (as of Jan 9, 2025)

Washington, D.C. Admission Act

This bill provides for the establishment of the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, and its admission into the United States.

The state is composed of most of the territory of the District of Columbia (DC), excluding a specified area that encompasses the U.S. Capitol, the White House, the U.S. Supreme Court building, federal monuments, and federal office buildings adjacent to the National Mall and the U.S. Capitol. The excluded territory shall be known as the Capital and serve as the seat of the government of the United States, as provided for in Article I of the Constitution. The state may not impose taxes on federal property except as Congress permits.

The bill provides for the DC Mayor to issue a proclamation for the first elections to Congress of two Senators and one Representative of the state. The bill eliminates the office of Delegate to the House of Representatives.

The bill applies current DC laws to the state. DC judicial proceedings and contractual obligations shall continue under the state's authority. The bill also provides for specified federal obligations to transfer to the state upon its certification that it has funds and laws in place to assume the obligations. These include maintaining a retirement fund for judges and operating public defender services.

The bill establishes a commission that is generally comprised of members who are appointed by DC and federal government officials to advise on an orderly transition to statehood.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 9, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
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