



26th National Delegates' Assembly
Blacks In Government, Incorporated
2005 Resolutions--Orlando, Florida



Resolution

Taxation Without Representation for the District of Columbia

WHEREAS, Citizens of the District of Columbia (DC) pay federal income taxes and "state" taxes and have fought in every war since the Revolutionary War, and

WHEREAS, This Congress, which purports to value states' rights, denies the District complete self-governance and maintains the ability to overturn DC laws and dictate how DC monies are spent, and

WHEREAS, Since DC citizens are not represented in the U.S. Senate and have a non-voting Delegate, they have limited control over how their tax dollars are spent, and

WHEREAS, The District is allotted three votes in the Electoral College to vote for the President, the number does not correspond with DC's population, and

WHEREAS, The District's delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, introduced the "No Taxation without Representation Act" that would provide DC with two Senators and one Representative in Congress, and

WHEREAS, Voting is a fundamental right of a democracy, (Moving Ideas, com), and

WHEREAS, the Organization of American States (OAS) has declared that DC's lack of Congressional representation is an International Human Rights violation and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has called for the U.S. government to grant equal voting rights to DC residents, and

WHEREAS, Every person having legal capacity is entitled to participate in the government of his country, directly or through his representatives, and to take part in popular elections, which shall be by secret ballot, and shall be honest, periodic and free, and

WHEREAS, four pieces of legislation have been proposed in Congress to address the DC voting rights issue and none have passed, and

WHEREAS, Residents of the Nation's capital are systematically denied equal representation in the national legislature, and

WHEREAS, All of these policies have a disproportionate effect on minorities; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) That the National Organization of Blacks in Government through its National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee, all regions and chapters support the rights of DC residents to have representation with equal voting rights in Congress; and
- (2) That a written copy of this resolution be delivered to the President and Vice President of the United States; and
- (3) That copies also be delivered to the House of Representatives, the Senate, Mayor Anthony Williams of the District of Columbia, and the District's delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton.

Submitted by:

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