

**RESOLUTION TO URGE PRESIDENT OBAMA TO USE THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS TO
CALL FOR SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL VOTING RIGHTS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

AND

**RE-AUTHORIZE THE PLACEMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA “TAXATION WITHOUT
REPRESENTATION” LICENSE PLATE ON THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMOUSINE**

January 7, 2010

Whereas, since 1790 Presidents like President Lyndon B. Johnson have used their mandated powers to deliver annual *State of the Union* messages as an opportunity to recommend measures deemed “*necessary and expedient*”;

Whereas, both as a candidate and as President, President Barack Obama embraced the ideas of President Abraham Lincoln (who abolished slavery and demanded full representation for all citizens), championed his message of “change”, and publicly pledged his support for granting District of Columbia residents full Voting Rights;

Whereas, the establishment of the District of Columbia as the Capital of the “Free” World, has resulted in the unintended disenfranchisement of the “citizens” who live as residents within the boundaries of the “Federal” enclave, and this denial has been recognized and addressed on numerous occasions including limited “Home Rule” and a substantive and symbolic decision by former President Bill Clinton in 1999 to order placement of “Taxation Without Representation” license plates on the presidential limousine, where they remained throughout his term and until removable by President George Bush;

Whereas, it was not the intent of our founding fathers that any “citizen” be disenfranchised;

Whereas, the elected officials of the District of Columbia including the Congressional Delegate, Mayor, DC Council, US (Statehood) Senators and Representative, and the DC Democratic State Committee (DCDSC) “the DC Democratic State Party” have aggressively advocated for full voting rights; and

Whereas, the official motto of the District of Columbia as inscribed on the corporate seal is “Justitia Omnibus” or “Justice to all.”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the DC Democratic State Party respectfully requests that President Obama call for the elimination of the disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents in his second State of the Union address, and until the injustice of District of Columbia residents have been made whole, that he reinstate the use of the “Taxation Without Representation” license plate on the presidential limousine;

Be it also resolved, that this resolution be sent to the White House by e-mail, regular mail and certified mail and that it be sent to all media outlets; and

Be it further resolved, that the DC Democratic Party calls upon Mayor Fenty, the titular head of the DC Democratic Party, to appeal personally to President Obama in this matter.

Co-Introduced by Phillip Pannell, Ronnie Edwards, Janice Davis, Jeffrey Richardson, Sheila Alexander-Reid, Sheila White, Wanda Lockridge, Phillip Hammond, and Chairman Anita Bonds.