

**PASSED at the March 31, 2011 meeting:**

**RESOLUTION ON THE 51ST STATE COMMISSION**

*Whereas*, on June 18, 2009, the Ward 3 Democratic Committee ("Committee") voted overwhelmingly to urge the Mayor and the District of Columbia Council to petition Congress to admit the District of Columbia as the 51<sup>st</sup> state of the union; and

*Whereas* the Committee testified at the July 8, 2009 hearing on Bill 18-177, the 51st State Commission Establishment Act of 2009 ("Commission"), supporting the need for the Commission; and

*Whereas* the Council approved the bill as D.C. Law 18-0127, effective March 23, 2010, authorizing the establishment of the Commission (1) to educate people in the District of Columbia and around the country about the need for the residential and commercial areas of the District to become a state, (2) to advocate for, promote and advance D.C. statehood and (3) to determine the legislation and administrative action needed to make the District of Columbia a state; and

*Whereas* the majority of the Commission's members are to be appointed by the Mayor and the Members of the District of Columbia Council; and

*Whereas* the Commission would be responsible to our elected officials, and through them to the people of the District of Columbia, and needs public funding to carry out the functions authorized in D.C. Law 18-0127; and

*Whereas* the Mayor strongly endorsed statehood in his inaugural address, our Delegate introduced H.R. 265, the New Columbia Admission Act, and the new Council endorsed statehood and thanked our Delegate for introducing the statehood bill; and

*Whereas*, a year after D.C. Law 18-0127 became effective, the Commission members have not been appointed nor the Commission funded:

*Therefore be it resolved* that the Ward 3 Democratic Committee urges the Mayor and the District of Columbia Council to promptly appoint members to the Commission and to fund the Commission.

Submitted by Precinct 27 Delegate Ann Loikow