

# Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

Spring 2006

## Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act Passes Government Reform Committee 29-4 March Agreement for New House Vote Bill Met Norton's Conditions

### Four Critical Conditions

1. Mark-up not only in Rep. Tom Davis' Government Reform Committee, but also in the Judiciary Committee, the committee of jurisdiction.
2. Seat in the state of Utah to be at-large to assure no political party advantage or disadvantage through redistricting.
3. Add two seats instead of one to assure that no state loses a seat as a result of this bill. Instead, the bill provides an additional seat.
4. Allow a vote on Norton's No Taxation without Representation Act for House and Senate seats before the vote on House bill to send message that D.C. will never give up the fight for equal representation in both houses.

*"I have never mentioned the special reason I personally wanted to be the first to cast that [first] vote, because this bill is for D.C. residents. However, my 16 years in Congress have been defined by the search for full representation in the city where my family has lived since before the Civil War. As a runaway slave, my great grandfather, Richard Holmes, came here in a furtive search for freedom itself. I hope to cast that vote for the residents of the city I have had the privilege of representing, who have fought for so long—and to cast that vote in memory of my great grandfather, Richard Holmes."*

—EXCERPT FROM CONGRESSWOMAN NORTON'S  
REMARKS ANNOUNCING THE BILL.

### Sweet Success for D.C. Small Businesses at Access to Capital Fair

The Congresswoman congratulated D.C. Small Business Person of 2006, Warren Brown, of U Street's CakeLove and Love Café at her 3rd annual Small Business Fair. Brown was the keynote speaker. Federal procurement officials, private contractors and representatives of six banks also were on hand for one-on-one sessions with D.C. small business owners.



**Jobs!**

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## 9th Annual Norton Job Fair

**Tuesday, August 8, 2006**

**11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Where D.C. Residents Get Real Jobs!**

**Plus**

**Don't miss workshops at 10:00 a.m.**

Interviewing Skills ❖ Preparing a Resume

Completing Federal & D.C. Employment Applications ❖ Dressing for Success

### The Washington Convention Center

Grand Ballroom

801 Mount Vernon Place, NW

Use Mt. Vernon Place Entrance

**Many Private, Federal & D.C. Employers with Jobs**

### Job Fair For D.C. Residents Only

**Must Have Valid D.C. ID**

**Dress in Business Attire**

*(Please avoid jeans, sneakers & athletic wear.)*

**D.C.  
Residents  
Only!**

Bring D.C. driver's license or  
non-driver's identification  
card, voter registration card  
or other Proof of D.C.  
Residency— (Utility bills,  
pay stubs, leases, etc.)  
**Bring Resumes**

**Metro:** Mt. Vernon Square/7th St.— Convention Center: Green & Yellow Lines ❖ Gallery Place: Red Line

**Buses:** 70, 71, 66, G8, P6

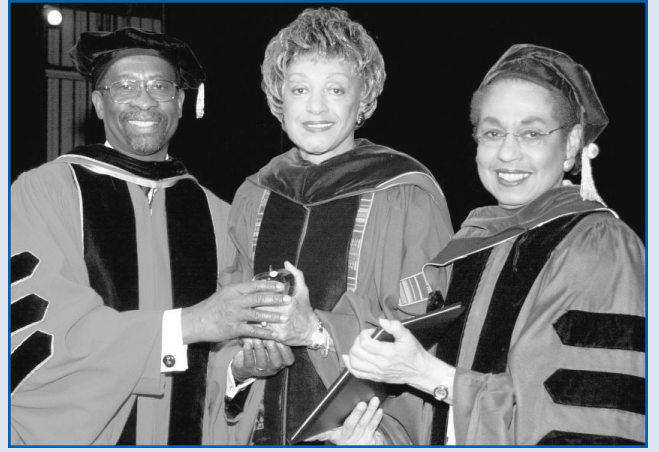
**Parking:** Private Lots & Street Meters

## Norton Wants HBCU Funding for UDC Graduate Schools

- ★ Bill would match annual Historically Black College and University funding she got for UDC undergraduate programs.
- ★ UDC graduate programs provide skilled graduates for jobs in vital disciplines such as early childhood education, special education, law, and business administration, among other programs. *See picture right.*

## D.C.'s Tuition Bill on the Way to Floors of House and Senate

- ★ Bill deserves reauthorization based on spectacular 40% increase in college attendance in first five years.
- ★ Most recipients first in their families to go to college because of grants of up to \$10,000 annually at state colleges and \$2,500 at local and regional private colleges and U.S. HBCUs.
- ★ Grants substitute for the many different kinds of colleges available in typical state university systems.



Congresswoman Norton, here with Dr. William Pollard, President of the University of the District of Columbia, congratulates her sister, Dr. Portia Holmes Shields, on her selection as the keynote speaker at the UDC Founder's Day Convocation. Dr. Shields is a former President of Albany State University and a graduate of the District of Columbia Teachers College.



## Applause for D.C. Teacher Excellence

A congressional resolution of honor was presented to Jason Kamras, the Sousa Middle School math teacher who was chosen National Teacher of the Year for 2005, the first D.C. teacher to receive this national award. Also pictured: Kim Burke-Ables of Banneker High School, who followed Kamras as the D.C. Teacher of the Year for 2006. The two teachers, Superintendent Clifford Janey, D.C. public officials, educators and residents attended Norton's Capitol Hill event honoring Kamras and city teachers.

## Early Voting in D.C. and the Nation Overdue

- ★ The congressional majority will not move H.R. 2104, Norton's early voting bill, to the floor.
- ★ She therefore has urged the City Council to pass early voting for D.C. before this year's elections.
- ★ The bill arose from long lines she saw in D.C. and other states in 2000 and 2004.
- ★ Studies show early voting helps working people, parents, and other busy people.

*“In D.C., where we are denied voting rights, our citizens deserve maximum access.”*  
CONGRESSWOMAN NORTON

## Free and Equal D.C. Series Says Statehood and Voting Rights Are Not Enough

- ★ Norton wants removal of all provisions that curtail self-government and home rule.
- ★ Free D.C. series eliminates inappropriate, obsolete and redundant anti-home rule congressional legislation.
- ★ Six Free and Equal D.C. bills pending: Budget Autonomy, Legislative Autonomy, D.C. National Guard Autonomy, D.C. Hatch Act Reform, D.C. Coin Act, D.C. Statues in the Capitol Act.

## Missed the Medicare Prescription Drug Sign-Up Deadline?

- ★ “No disappointment was more bitter than the program's start-up on January 1st, when it fell flat on its face, leaving many seniors without their medicines.” —Congresswoman Norton
- ★ Half the states and the District of Columbia used local taxpayer funds to rescue this federal program.
- ★ Cosponsoring H.R. 5263 to extend the deadline to December 31, 2007 and H.R. 3861 to waive late enrollment fees for 2006.
- ★ The federal government explained the program in materials written from seventh-grade to post-graduate levels, but 40% of seniors read at or below the fifth-grade level.
- ★ Democrats are pushing hard to improve the new program, but the real answer is H.R. 752, which requires a national Medicare plan and negotiation for lower prices.

## Standing Room Only Crowd at Norton Ward 8 Town Meeting Hears Top Government Officials on Historic Federal Move to Anacostia

★ Her lead role on oversight committee for project guarantees close monitoring and maximum community participation.

★ Major local benefit of Coast Guard headquarters and other buildings coming to the west campus of St. Elizabeth's is revitalization of Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue.

★ Decades of U.S. neglect of St. Elizabeth's a major factor in deterioration in Ward 8.

### *New Dental Bill Seeks Breakthrough in D.C. HIV/AIDS Epidemic*

**What** A loan repayment program for dental school graduates willing to serve HIV/AIDS patients and poor people. Similar to congressional legislation for physicians, nurses and others.

**Why 1)** Dental problems are often an early signal of HIV/AIDS.

**2)** Access would encourage early detection, particularly in areas like D.C. where many are reluctant to be tested.

**3)** U.S. must tackle serious shortage of dentists, especially for underserved areas because of nationwide drop in dental school applicants.

**4)** Loan repayment relief has been very successful in getting professionals to remain in areas where originally assigned.



At a press conference with Whitman-Walker Dental Clinic Director Dr. Patrick Hughes (far left), Howard University School of Dentistry Dean Dr. Leo Rouse (far right), and Howard Dental students and faculty, to introduce the DDS for HIV/AIDS Act of 2006. Howard and Whitman-Walker clinics are almost alone in serving HIV/AIDS patients and the poor.

### *Norton Carter G. Woodson Bill Adds Historic Home to NPS Landmarks*

The Congresswoman congratulated William Simons, her 7th grade history teacher, at the public event transferring the home of Carter G. Woodson, the "Father of Black History," to the National Park Service. Simons led the delegation of historians who brought the project to her attention, resulting in legislation.



Photo by Irene Kellogg

### *Bill to Increase D.C. Homebuyer Credit from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and Add New Neighborhoods*

★ Norton has already gotten renewal of both the homebuyer and business tax credits through the Senate and House. Final bill is imminent and will likely be retroactive.

★ Norton's new bill raises the homebuyer credit to \$10,000 because sharply increased home and rental prices are driving lower- and middle-income residents out of town.

★ Other features of new bill: Additional neighborhoods. Expiration date extended to 2009 so Norton doesn't have to struggle annually for renewal.

★ Experts say both credits have been major factors in D.C.'s recovery following city's financial collapse in the 1990s.

## *Norton Continues Work to Repair Family Life*

*Kicks off federally funded Marriage Development Accounts in Ward 7.*

*For further information call 202-225-8050.*

### *Ike Fulwood*

*U.S. Parole Commissioner, Former D.C. Police Chief, Model and Mentor*

He spent 28 years wearing a badge, rising through the ranks....Last year the White House nominated Fulwood to serve a six-year term on the U.S. Parole Commission, which deals with federal and District offenders. The Senate approved his nomination....Once Fulwood locked people up. Now it's about letting people out and then sending them back to prison if they violate the terms of their release.... "I looked around that prison and said, 'What a waste of human life,'" Fulwood recalls. "I came home and said to my wife, 'Why can't we break this cycle?' It's still a question I'm always struggling with...Some people say, 'Put 'em back in for 30 to 60 days so they know this is not a game.' And some people say, 'This is just a junkie. Ain't causing no harm but to himself.'" Fulwood appreciates both arguments. "But if you live in one of these neighborhoods, it's more than that."

THE WASHINGTON POST  
LOCKED UP INSIDE, DECEMBER 18, 2005

*Norton recommended Fulwood, a founding Member of her Commission on Black Men and Boys, for his appointment as a U.S. Parole Commissioner.*

### *Missing: Boys & Men in Black & White*

*Last year, 56 percent of first-year U.S. college students were women.*

**2005 Freshman Enrollment**

Howard University	68% female
American University	65% female
Georgetown University	56% female
George Washington University	55% female
Catholic University	54% female

Source: College Board & The Washington Post

# Norton Bill Fighting for Jobs for Federal Workers and Constituents

Seen here with American Federation of Government Employees National President John Gage at a meeting of Walter Reed employees and constituents who asked her to help fight a flawed outsourcing bid process. Norton discussed her letter to Secretary of the Army Francis Harvey, asking him not to sign the contract with a private company seeking to take over base operation support services at Walter Reed Army Medical Center from 350 federal employees who have been performing these operations. The Army agreed to review and her amendment to the Defense Appropriation seeks to eliminate the privatization.



## Employee Free Choice Act

To highlight her support of H.R. 1696, the Employee Free Choice Act, strengthening collective bargaining, Congresswoman Norton issued a statement applauding Washington Ballet dancers who won their first contract after joining the American Guild of Musical Artists and suffering a costly two-month lock out.

## Tired of the Same Old Congressional Web Sites?

### Introducing the New Norton Web Site!!!

New Stuff...New News...New Action  
Changes Every Week at [www.norton.house.gov](http://www.norton.house.gov)!!!

What's Happening Before it Hits the News

Photos ♦ Opportunities ♦ Services



### Email Your Ideas on Bringing Our Troops Home!

Congresswoman Norton needs to hear from you on her efforts to bring our troops home from Iraq. What are your ideas? If you did not attend the Iraq Speak Out, you can still speak out at [www.norton.house.gov](http://www.norton.house.gov)



### Sign up for E-News

Get news you can use when it's fresh and hot! Go to [www.norton.house.gov](http://www.norton.house.gov)

## Record 600 Taxpayers Served at Norton Tax Fair

### Focus This Year on Service Personnel and Vets

Congresswoman Norton seen here introducing Lt. Yolanda Lee of the D.C. National Guard. Lt. Lee had recently returned from Iraq when she was a guest speaker at the annual tax fair to encourage members of the armed forces and veterans to use Norton's free tax fair and 140 other free tax services here. Lt. Lee, a native Washingtonian and Ballou and UDC graduate, spoke as part of our efforts to discourage use of costly rapid refunds offered by tax preparers. When she was in college, Lt. Lee said she learned the hard way that rapid refunds are really high interest loans that take a big chunk of your tax return. This year's tax fair had a record turnout twice the usual number.



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**Norton Job Fair – Tuesday, August 8th**