



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

Winter 2007

Norton Keeps Promise, Introduces D.C. Vote Bill as First of 110th

Bills to Transfer Full Home Rule Powers to D.C. Follow

"In the spirit of bipartisanship promised by the new House majority, I am optimistic that Democrats will see the bill as a historic opportunity to make good on promises for voting rights and equality for the people of the District of Columbia. Our vote was long past due in the 109th Congress. It's in overtime in the 110th."

FROM NORTON STATEMENT INTRODUCING THE D.C. FAIR AND EQUAL HOUSE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 2007



"No doubt, the citizens of Utah and the District of Columbia face different challenges, in greatly different parts of the country, and with greatly differing life styles, but they share a commonality: the right to be represented in our country's legislature."

FROM LETTER OF UTAH SENATORS ORRIN HATCH AND ROBERT BENNETT AND SEN. JOSEPH LIEBERMAN (I-CT) TO SENATE LEADERS.

More on the Vote, 110th Goals and 109th Victories on page 2.



Norton is sworn in by Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Looking on from left: Mayor Adrian Fenty, family friend Vermel Howard, daughter Katherine Norton, City Council Chairman Vincent Gray and son John Norton.

**★ Don't Miss Inside:
2007 the Year to Stop the
Spread of HIV/AIDS in D.C.**

★ Annual Norton Tax Preparation & Information Fair ★

Free! For D.C. Residents Only - First Come - First Served

Saturday, February 10, 2007

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Professionals Will Prepare Your D.C. and Federal Tax Forms!!

Washington Convention Center

801 Mount Vernon Place, NW, L Street Entrance (between 7th & 9th Streets)

Get a Rapid Refund at No Cost

COME IF YOU FILE 1040, 1040-A, 1040-EZ, DC D40 and D40-EZ 2006 forms only. Get the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Child & Dependant Care Credit, Elderly & Disabled Credit, Education Credit, D.C. Homebuyer Tax Credit.

The Government May Owe You!

- ◆ Earned Income Tax Credit Refunds
- ◆ Other Valuable Credits that mean cash in your pocket
- ◆ **\$5,000 Homebuyer Credit NOW EXTENDED, SEE PAGE 3.**

BRING copy of 2005 returns, W-2's, Forms 1098 & 1099, itemized deductions, social security cards for you, your spouse and dependents to support deductions and credits, blank check for direct deposits, something to read and a snack in case of a long wait at this very popular event.

**We'll Help You
Get Your '06
\$5,000 Homebuyer
Tax Credit!**

No Need to Pay for a Rapid Refund— We E-file directly with IRS

It's quick, easy, accurate—and Free!! IRS confirmation of receipt in 48 hours.

Refund in half the time of paper filing.

Go to <http://www.irs.gov/efile> for more information.



*A Free Service from Congresswoman Norton
for the only American Citizens who Pay Taxes Without Representation*



Please Note! If you have income from rental property, partnerships, small business corporations, estates and trusts, or stocks/bonds sales or if you are self-employed, please seek assistance from a paid tax preparer.

Metro: Mt. Vernon Sq/7th St.-Convention Center, Green & Yellow Lines Buses: 70, 71, 66, G8, P6 Parking: Private Lots & Street Meters

House Vote and Full Authority to Govern D.C. Beginning with Budget and Legislative Autonomy Top Norton Goals for 110th Congress

★ **First Things First.** Norton and Rep. Tom Davis reintroduced D.C.'s House vote bill, the Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act, as their first bill of the 110th Congress. They seek early passage and a seat for D.C. beginning this year following action on the "100 Hours" agenda of the new Democratic House. Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer have repeated their support. The Utah-D.C. link and continued support from Utah senators remain essential to passage. See page 1.

★ **First Budget Autonomy Bill to Yield More.** Heartened by achieving Mid-year Budget Autonomy last year, she will press full D.C. Budget Autonomy to allow the District to spend its locally raised funds without coming to Congress for approval. Next to statehood, city control over its budget without congressional intervention is considered the most important home rule goal. See below.

★ **Legislative Autonomy Overdue.** Eliminate the congressional review or layover periods that keep D.C. laws from becoming final for months.

★ **Transfer All Home Rule Powers** to Mayor and City Council to run and change city operations.

★ **Enact "Free and Equal D.C. Series" of Bills.** A District

Attorney for D.C., freedom from the federal Hatch Act, and other bills to afford D.C. the full right to self-government.

★ **Federal Contribution Act Key to Lowering D.C. Taxes and Stabilizing City Finances.** Correct the city's unique federally imposed structural imbalance by approving Norton's \$800 million annual Fair Federal Compensation Act. District taxpayers pay one of the highest U.S. tax rates to cover the cost of federal mandates such as federal employee services without a commuter tax.

★ **New and Improved D.C. Tax Credits.** Following renewal of vital tax credits last year, double the \$5,000 homebuyer credit to \$10,000. Expand business tax credits to new areas. Extend expiration date to 2009, when tax credits in other jurisdictions expire.

Remove Oppressive Anti-Home Rule Riders

Odious D.C. appropriation riders nullify home rule. **Worst examples:** Ban on spending funds for exchanging dirty needles used to inject drugs, thus contributing to D.C.'s high HIV/AIDS rate; on lobbying for voting rights; and on abortions for poor women.

Voting Rights Milestones, Mid-year Budget Autonomy, Land Transfer, Crime Fighting Help Among Norton's 109th Session Victories

House Vote Bill. Norton achieved several milestones that moved the D.C. Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act, sponsored with Rep. Tom Davis, to the brink of passage. Negotiations got: Consideration by the Judiciary Committee, the committee of jurisdiction. Co-sponsorship of the bill by Leader Nancy Pelosi. Addition of 2 House seats removing potential opposition to the bill. Despite a historic 29 to 4 vote for approval in the Government Reform Committee, the Republican leadership declined to move the bill to the floor.

D.C. Mid-year Budget Autonomy Major Home Rule Gain. Norton got passage of D.C.'s first budget autonomy legislation, Mid-year Budget Autonomy, allowing the city to spend local funds without returning to Congress for approval in the mid-year supplemental appropriations. This first significant expansion of the Home Rule Act since its 1973 passage paves the way for full budget autonomy, a priority for the 110th.

Renewed Tax Credits for D.C. Homebuyers and Businesses. These valuable tax credits have stabilized the city's population and business base by stemming decades of taxpayer flight and adding 30,000 residents. See page 3.

Land Transfer Bill for New Housing and Facilities Brings Federal Payment for Structural Imbalance. Passage of her land transfer bill brings 200 valuable federal acres to D.C., including Poplar Point, the D.C. General Hospital site and Anacostia waterfront sites. Revenue from development of the land partially meets

Norton's goal to obtain a federal contribution to compensate D.C. for federally imposed mandates, such as the ban on a commuter tax.

D.C.'s Reserve Funds Freed. Funds freed from D.C.'s huge emergency and contingency reserve funds that had been inaccessible, regardless of the city's needs.



The Congresswoman cuts the ribbon at dedication of the new William B. Bryant Federal Court Annex, named as a result of Norton's bill. Pictured here beside Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts and Sen. John Warner of Virginia (left of Roberts), the Senate sponsor, and others. Judge Bryant was the first African American Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and the first Black Asst. U.S. Attorney here.

4th Gun Law Repeal Attempt Stopped. Norton beat two different measures that threatened to bring more guns to D.C. streets.

40% Increase in Transportation Funds. She overcame threats to D.C. funding, securing the city's top ranked funding with a 40% increase over the last transportation bill plus millions of dollars for extra projects.

First Federal Racial Profiling Law. Norton bill uses grants to encourage strong racial profiling laws and enforcement.

Secure TRAINS Amendments Move. The lead sponsor of a bill for public transportation security, she got two amendments into the Homeland Security reauthorization bill for operators, passengers and employees. Her research and development amendment was added to the science and technology security bill.

House Moves Anacostia River Amendments. The Water Resources Development Act passed the House with a Norton amendment requiring the Army Corps of Engineers to help the region develop a 10 year action plan to qualify for \$250 million in her Anacostia River bill.

Reagan National Fully Open. Her legislation opened general aviation (charter and small plane service) at National, the only airport where full service had not been restored after 9/11, to boost the D.C. and regional economy.

Appointed to Leadership Truth Squad. Leader Nancy Pelosi appointed the Congresswoman to a six-member leadership "Truth Squad" that exposed systemic contractor abuses and wasteful procurement by the Administration and the Republican Congress, particularly in the Iraq War and after Hurricane Katrina.

Home of Black History Month Founder Becomes National Park Service Site. Following her legislation, the NPS accepted ownership of the home of Carter G. Woodson, the preeminent scholar who created Black History Month. The renovated home in Shaw is expected to become a major tourist site.

HIV/AIDS is a Health Emergency in D.C. Every Resident Get Tested!

Norton is making 2007 the year to raise awareness and mobilize residents for preventing and testing for HIV and AIDS, which have gripped the African American community here and nationally. She began in November with a D.C. Clergy Town Meeting on HIV/AIDS and will continue throughout this year with town meetings separately focusing on men, women and teens, finally ending with an All-City Town Meeting to eliminate HIV/AIDS in D.C.

Goals

Help Residents Confront basic facts about the epidemic, how it is spread, preventive measures, treatment. **Recognize** that the victims are everyday people they love or know, but many do not know they have the virus. **Leave** the meetings with the beginnings of plans or efforts to continue to work systematically to find ways to move in on HIV/AIDS and move the epidemic out.

Simple Mouth Swab Test for every resident, even if you do not think you have the virus. **Erase the Stigma.** The virus here has gone mainstream. Stigmatizing the virus spreads it.

Clergy Ideas

Devote all or part of Sunday services at least once a month to an aspect of the epidemic.

City-wide clergy testing event.

City-wide day of prayer for people living with HIV/AIDS.

Feature youth ministries in prevention efforts.

We Can Get D.C. Off the Top of the Nation's HIV/AIDS Roll!

City	Population	Cumulative AIDS Cases
Washington, D.C.	572,059	16,165
Baltimore	651,154	14,054
Oakland	500,000	6,573
Boston	589,141	6,388
Nashville	545,524	3,953
New Orleans	478,434	2,684
Charlotte	540,828	1,782
El Paso	563,662	1,354

Source: AIDS Action www.aidsaction.com and the state of Texas



Norton gets tested on the Capitol grounds, along with her Congressional Black Caucus colleagues, to encourage African Americans, who are now the majority with the virus, to be tested.

Norton Raises Spirits of D.C. National Guard Off to Iraq

Congresswoman Norton strongly opposed the invasion of Iraq, but she is an avid D.C. National Guard advocate. She is pictured here at the Armory after a talk to troops headed to Iraq and to their families. Norton cosponsored Rep. John Murtha's resolution for redeployment from Iraq. She earlier hosted a Capitol Hill "Speak-out of Residents Without a Vote on the War and the Nation's Spending Priorities."



Our Tax Credits Keep D.C. Buying and Building

- ★ **Popular \$5,000 D.C. Homebuyer Tax Credit and Business Tax Credits**, now extended for 2006 and 2007, are available for D.C. residents only.
- ★ **The homebuyer tax credit** is money refunded to you from federal income taxes you paid or owe. If your taxes are less than \$5,000, the remaining credit is refunded the next year.
- ★ **For single filers** earning up to \$70,000, joint filers earning up to \$110,000. Reduced credit for singles earning up to \$90,000, couples up to \$130,000.
- ★ **Must be your principal residence**, not investment property.
- ★ **You get the credit** even if you owned a home outside D.C. or in D.C. if you have not owned a principal residence here the year preceding a new purchase.
- ★ **Call the IRS** at 1-800-TAX-FORM or go to <http://www.irs.gov> for D.C. Homebuyer Form 8859.
- ★ **D.C. Business Tax Credits** include Enterprise Zone incentives, wage credits for hiring D.C. residents, tax exempt bonds. Go to www.dc.gov or call D.C. Planning Office at 727-6365 for information.
- ★ Call 225-8050 or go to www.norton.house.gov for general information about the Homebuyer and Business Tax Credits.

"In the face of a pending troop surge, one of the great untold stories of this war is the largest Guard call-up since World War II, with their presence at times topping 40% of soldiers in Iraq, and the financial, career, and family sacrifices they make."

Congresswoman Norton

Norton Gets Federal Help for D.C. and the Mall During Crime Emergency

- ★ **JULY**...By persuading Capitol Police to help patrol the Mall, Norton freed Park Police officers to return to Anacostia, Fort Dupont, Rock Creek and other city parks under federal jurisdiction.
- ★ **AUGUST**...All perpetrators arrested and sentenced.
- ★ **MARCH 07**...At her request, before spring, Park Service will complete an inventory of all Mall lighting to avoid future attacks in dark areas that could attract criminals.

Redesigned Norton Web Site Coming Popping with Hot Stuff Changed Weekly!

Get Your Own E-News on Your Issues and Interests

Sign-Up Today for the Newest Congressional News

- ★ Major issues in Congress that the *Post* and other media don't cover.
- ★ Click and ask the Congresswoman a question. Check out our photos. Get constituent services on the web site.

Go to www.norton.house.gov



Has Your Group Toured the Capitol?

These first graders from Benjamin Stoddert Elementary School have!

WANTED: Students and adult groups. Visit your Congresswoman. Learn about the Capitol on a tour. As a D.C. Public Schools graduate, she especially wants every D.C. public or private school student to visit the Capitol at least once before graduating from high school. Your club or adult group, too! Call 225-8050 or go to www.norton.house.gov to book well in advance. Congresswoman Norton is pictured with Stoddert students who visited her office on a tour.



Get Loans and Access to Capital at Norton Small Business Fair!! On the Spot Applications for Bank and SBA Loans!!

- \$ How You Can Get a Commercial Business Loan Instead of a Consumer Loan for Your Business
- \$ How You Can Get on the GSA Schedule for Government Procurement
- \$ How You Can Buy the Space You Are Renting

One-on-one Advice From Bank Loan Officers, Federal Government Contracting Officers, and SBA Specialists And Much More

Tuesday, April 24, 2007 — 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Washington Convention Center
* 801 Mount Vernon Pl., NW

Use Main Entrance (Mount Vernon Place, between 7th & 9th Streets)

Free! For D.C. residents and businesses only

Limited seating • Pre-registration requested by April 17th to guarantee seat.

Call 783-5065 or go to www.norton.house.gov to register • On-site registration 8:00 a.m.-9 a.m.



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Norton Tax Fair – Saturday, Feb. 10th