



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

D.C. Gun Laws Saved! Norton Working to Save Assault Weapons Ban

With only a few days notice, Congresswoman Norton, working with gun victims, elected officials, Police Chief Charles Ramsey and gun safety advocates, successfully defeated a bold attempt in the Senate in March to eliminate all D.C. gun laws. She is now working in Congress to extend the assault weapons ban that expires in September. “The District’s success in saving gun laws here shows what can be done,” Norton said. “According to the polls Americans, in large numbers, support the assault weapons ban. They have the right to expect Congress to respond to their concerns to keep Uzis and AK-47s from returning to our streets.”



Congresswoman Norton held a news conference at MPD to announce pending Senate action to repeal D.C. gun laws. She was joined by D.C. Police Chief Charles Ramsey and Marita Michael, mother of a 16 year old Anacostia High School gun victim. Norton and the parents of victims then went to meet with Senate staff about keeping our gun laws. Later, the repeal of the D.C. gun ban was withdrawn from consideration in the Senate.

“I come forward in the name of my son, Devin Fowlkes, who was shot and killed as he left Anacostia High School. I come forward in the name of my 15 year-old daughter, Artimitia. She will soon be a student at Anacostia, where Devin was killed. Our family has been hurt enough. Please don’t make it worse by sending Artimitia and her friends to school in a city where Congress has taken away our strict gun laws.”

—Marita Michael supporting Norton’s fight against repeal of D.C.’s gun laws



**D.C. Homebuyer and Business Tax Credits Pass—
Final Passage Expected Soon** (see page 4)

Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! Norton 7th Annual Job Fair

**Wednesday, August 11, 2004
11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

Where D.C. Residents Get Real Jobs!

Don’t miss 30 minute workshops on
**Interviewing Skills,
Preparing a Resume,
Completing Federal &
D.C. Employment Applications,
Dressing for Success
at 10 AM**

**The New Washington
Convention Center
Grand Ballroom**

801 Mount Vernon Place, NW
Use Mt. Vernon Place Entrance



Norton Job Fair 2003

**Many
Private, Federal & D.C. Employers
with Jobs at all Job Levels
Job Fair For D.C. Residents Only**

Must Have Valid D.C. ID—
(D.C. driver’s license or non-driver’s license,
voter registration card)
or other **Proof of D.C. Residency—**
(Utility bills, pay stubs, leases, etc.)

Dress in Business Attire
(Please avoid jeans, sneakers & athletic wear)

Bring Resumes

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

Buses: 70, 71, 66, G8, P6

Parking: Private Lots & Street Meters

D.C. Residents Only!

College Tuition Benefits Being Reauthorized in House and Senate



Congresswoman Norton met with Anthony Talley (far left), a guidance counselor at Washington Math Science Technology Public Charter High School, and his students to discuss the Norton-Davis College Access Act. Earlier, Talley testified in support of the Act at a Government Reform Committee hearing. Under the Act, DC students may attend any U.S. public college at low-in-state tuition or receive \$2,500 to attend private colleges in D.C. or the region, or any U.S. Historically Black College or University.

- D.C. college attendance up 28% since 1999 original bill — compared to only 5% nationally
- 6,500 students at all income levels attending 300 schools
- Helps combat rising tuition costs

Norton Gets 1st Federal Racial Profiling Provision and Big Money for D.C. in Pending Transportation Bill

\$1.6 Billion for D.C. Highways and Metro

- ▲ \$877 million in transit funds, an increase of \$384 million over the last bill
- ▲ \$718 million in highway funds, a \$67 million increase.
- ▲ \$60 million extra for deteriorating bridges, clean natural gas buses for WMATA to improve air quality, and bicycle trails
- ▲ \$20 million extra for the Frederick Douglass Bridge, working with Rep. Steny Hoyer

\$60 million in Federal Funds to Fight Racial Profiling

- ▲ Federal grants to states that have racial profiling laws or are developing such laws
- ▲ Funds to be used for developing, maintaining and evaluating statistical data and for police training on racial profiling
- ▲ States must meet tough requirements, including prohibiting the use of race or ethnicity of drivers or passengers, and maintaining racial statistics on each vehicle stop for public inspection
- ▲ A big step toward adding racial profiling to the nation's civil rights laws

Norton Rail Security Bill has 27 Cosponsors

Congresswoman Norton used her membership on both the Transportation and Homeland Security Committees to become the lead sponsor of a bill to substantially increase federal funding for security on passenger rail and public transit systems.

- ❖ \$2.8 billion over 3 years for grants to pay for cameras, equipment, bomb detection, training, emergency response and protective equipment
- ❖ For security risks to buses, subways, ferries, rail, light rail, and other ground transportation

Questions for Guantanamo but Honor for Our Troops

On her own staff, and at Guantanamo Prison, Congresswoman Norton has seen and admired men and women who typify the high standards of the National Guard and Reserves. With some of her colleagues on the Homeland Security Committee, Norton visited Guantanamo in February before the revelations of prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib in Iraq. Through a one-way mirror, they observed prisoners sitting comfortably in conversation being interrogated by National Guard women, many of whom are elementary school teachers at home!

The delegation was told that interrogators were getting invaluable information using small rewards, such as extra sweets and exercise, and that coercion

was never used. Norton is seeking information on whether parts of the camp the congressional delegation did not inspect used any tactics similar to the Abu Ghraib abuses.

Norton had a luncheon meeting with D.C. National Guard members at Guantanamo to discuss their military service. Fully 70% of the personnel at Guantanamo are National Guard and Reserves. The difference between them and the National Guard and Reservists doing similar work in Iraq was training and supervision.

Reservists Serve on Norton's Staff While Serving Their Country



Army Reserve Specialist Emory Kosh, who spent almost a year in Iraq and Kuwait, is a staff assistant. Army Reserve Captain Thaddeus Hoffmeister is a legislative assistant.

Norton Introduces 1st Structural Imbalance Bill with Bipartisan Regional Support

A Breakthrough for D.C.

- ▲ \$800 million annually for city
- ▲ Increases automatically with inflation
- ▲ Based on GAO finding that the imbalance is caused by federal mandates such as services to commuters and use of D.C. land
- ▲ Helps reduce high D.C. taxes
- ▲ Improves city's bond rating
- ▲ Helps pay for D.C. infrastructure and D.C.'s high debt

Original Cosponsors

- ▲ Government Reform Chair Tom Davis (VA)
- ▲ Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Frank Wolf (VA)
- ▲ Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (MD)
- ▲ Congressional Black Caucus Chair Elijah Cummings (MD)
- ▲ Rep. Jim Moran (VA)
- ▲ Rep. Albert Wynn (MD)
- ▲ Rep. Chris Van Hollen (MD)

Not 1, But 4 Voting Rights Proposals !

Cong. Norton	Cong. Norton	Rep. Tom Davis (VA)	Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (CA)	Rep. Ralph Regula (OH)
New Columbia Admissions Act to grant statehood. The only bill that has had a House vote. Almost 2/3 of Democrats and one Republican voted yes in November 1993. D.C. switched to voting rights after insolvency led city to turn over some state costs to the federal government. Statehood requires that all state costs be paid by the state.	Two Senate seats and one House seat for D.C.	Requires a balance of Republican (Utah) with a Democratic (D.C.) seat to gain full voting rights in House only. Expands House from 435 to 437 until the next reapportionment in 2010.	Treats D.C. residents as Maryland citizens for the purpose of representation in House and Senate only but D.C. remains an independent jurisdiction. Expands House from 435 to 437.	Returns D.C. to Maryland line pending approval of MD. Congress maintains legislative control over National Capital Service Area (Mall).

D.C. residents may not support all these bills, but the emergence of three bills from the Majority side, where D.C. voting rights has been opposed, is an important step forward. The greater the interest, the greater

the likelihood of an acceptable bill. Multiple bills make a bill that can pass more possible and signal that denial of democratic rights to D.C. residents is an untenable position.

Denial of D.C. Voting Rights Found a Violation of International Law

Congresswoman Norton is pressing a new international law finding in D.C.'s campaign for voting rights. She also has joined D.C. residents in asking the 18 senators and representatives of the U.S. Helsinki Commission to take similar action.

- ❖ **Finding:** The U.S. is in violation of the American Declaration of the Rights of Man, signed by the United States
- ❖ **Agency:** Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Human Rights Commission
- ❖ **Ruling:** The United States should provide "an effective remedy" by law or other measures "to guarantee [D.C. residents] the effective right to participate, directly or through freely chosen representatives and the general conditions of equality in their national legislature."
- ❖ **Complainants:** International human rights activist Tim Cooper and 22 other D.C. residents



Congresswoman Norton invited the D.C. Young Suffragists, children activists fighting for D.C. voting rights, to her office to discuss taxation without representation. Norton also encourages teachers or parents to help students participate in her "D.C. Students in the Capitol" program. Call 225-8050 for information.

Don't Shortchange D.C.'s Coin

For the third time, Congresswoman Norton got House passage of her bill that will allow the District and U.S. territories to put their own design on the reverse side of a quarter. Inadvertently, these jurisdictions were excluded from the 50 state quarter coin bill that gave each state the same right in 1998, and Norton repeatedly has sought to wipe away "any appearance of differential or discriminatory treatment and any implication that these jurisdictions are colonies." Armed with Senate sponsors, she is now optimistic about Senate passage. Norton said, "Today, when our country is at war and faces unparalleled dangers, this bill is yet another example of our unity as Americans and our indivisibility in honoring all our citizens. By repeatedly passing this measure, the House has made it abundantly clear that we are one country. Our hope is that the Senate will join us."



New Medicare Prescription Drug Bill to Cost Seniors More, Not Less

500 seniors crowded Norton's Special Seniors Town Hall Meeting in April. She opposed the new Medicare prescription drug law and is pressing new bills. The greatest and most surprising flaw in the new law is that it will not cut the cost of drugs seniors are now paying.

All seniors are entitled to the Medicare Discount Card but chief benefit is for low income seniors. Call 739-0668 for information on the Medicare Discount Card.

Administration Officials Bar Drugs From Canada Despite Large Savings for Seniors

Drug	Canada Cost	Average Medicare Discount Card Cost
Lipitor	\$35	\$74
Plavix	\$53	\$120
Norvasc	\$28	\$49
Celebrex	\$28	\$137
Zocor	\$49	\$184
Prevacid	\$44	\$135
Protonix	\$42	\$110

"THE PROPOSAL'S MOD-EST benefits coupled with an expected high growth of prescription drug prices could result in major disappointment... Medicare beneficiaries in most prescription drug expenditure levels will actually face higher out-of-pocket costs when they have coverage in 2007 than they do in 2003 (when they do not have coverage)." Consumers Union

Homebuyer and Business Tax Credits to be Retroactive after Passage

Congresswoman Norton said, "Hallelujah," after the D.C.-only tax credits she got through the House last year were approved by the Senate. Residents who have purchased a home in the city since January, when the \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit expired, will be retroactively entitled to the tax credit. Businesses that have built or renovated or have hired D.C. residents will get a retroactive tax break with the extension of our business incentives. Go to www.norton.house.gov or call 225-8050 for information.

Norton and Sen. Jeffords Respond to D.C. Lead Water Crisis with National Bill

Congresswoman Norton and Senator Jim Jeffords listen as Bloomingdale neighborhood residents voice concerns about D.C. water. The meeting followed the introduction of the Jeffords-Norton "Lead-Free Drinking Water Act," an overhaul of federal water regulations and standards.



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