## [DRAFT]

October 5, 2020

116TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

# H.R.

To reduce the size of the seat of the Government of the United States to the area comprised of the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the United States Capitol, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the United States Capitol, to provide for the retrocession of the remaining area of the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, and for other purposes.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Johnson of South Dakota ir	ntroduced the	following	bill;	which	was
referred to the Committee on					

## A BILL

To reduce the size of the seat of the Government of the United States to the area comprised of the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the United States Capitol, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the United States Capitol, to provide for the retrocession of the remaining area of the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, and for other purposes.

1	Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2	tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
4	This Act may be cited as the "District of Columbia-
5	Maryland Reunion Act".
6	SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
7	Congress finds the following:
8	(1) Article I, section 2, clause 1 of the United
9	States Constitution states that the "House of Rep-
10	resentatives shall be composed of members chosen
11	every second year by the people of the several
12	states.".
13	(2) The Founding Fathers did not consider the
14	proposed district that would become Washington,
15	D.C. a State under the Constitution, as evidenced
16	when Alexander Hamilton offered an amendment to
17	the Constitution during the New York ratification to
18	provide full congressional representation to Wash-
19	ington, D.C., but the convention rejected the amend-
20	ment on July 22, 1788.
21	(3) Chief Justice Marshall held in $Hepburn\ v$ .
22	Ellzey in 1805 that the term "states" in Article I,
23	section 2, clause 1 of the Constitution does not in-
24	clude Washington, D.C. for representation purposes.

1	(4) Seven Supreme Court Justices affirmed
2	Chief Justice Marshall's Hepburn reasoning in Na-
3	tional Mut. Ins. Co. of Dist. of Col. v. Tidewater
4	Transfer Co. in 1949.
5	(5) A Democrat-controlled Congress in 1978 at-
6	tempted to amend the Constitution to provide Wash-
7	ington, D.C. with full congressional representation.
8	The Committee on the Judiciary of the House of
9	Representatives reported the resolution and stated
10	that granting congressional representation to the
11	District of Columbia as it is presently constituted
12	would require a constitutional amendment, because
13	"statutory action alone will not suffice".
14	(6) Amending the Constitution requires two-
15	thirds approval by each house of Congress and rati-
16	fication by three-fourths of the States. In 1978,
17	there was success in obtaining a favorable vote from
18	two-thirds of both the House and the Senate on a
19	constitutional amendment to provide Washington,
20	D.C. with full congressional representation, but the
21	requirement for ratification by three-fourths of the
22	States could not be obtained.
23	(7) An alternative to a potentially lengthy and
24	difficult constitutional amendment process is ceding
25	Washington, D.C. back to Maryland, just as an area

1	of 31 square miles that was originally ceded by Vir-
2	ginia was returned to that State by Federal legisla-
3	tion in 1847, thereby ensuring that the portion of
4	Washington, D.C. in Virginia would have Senate and
5	House representation.
6	(8) In 1847, there was a desire to allow the
7	District of Columbia land on the west side of the Po-
8	tomac River that was not being used by the federal
9	government to have its own proper representation in
10	Congress.
11	(9) Obtaining the desired representation for
12	this portion of Washington, D.C. would have re-
13	quired a constitutional amendment unless the land
14	were given back to Virginia.
15	(10) Instead of trying to pass a constitutional
16	amendment, Congress in 1847 legislatively ceded
17	back to Virginia from the District of Columbia the
18	non-Federal land composed of 31 square miles on
19	the west side of the Potomac River.
20	(11) Accordingly, the District of Columbia
21	would clearly and constitutionally have 2 Senators
22	and a Representative with full voting rights by
23	ceding the District of Columbia to Maryland after
24	Maryland's acceptance of such retrocession, while
25	maintaining the exclusive legislative authority and

1	control of Congress over the National Capital Serv-
2	ice Area in the District of Columbia.
3	SEC. 3. RETROCESSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO
4	MARYLAND.
5	(a) In General.—Upon the issuance of a proclama-
6	tion by the President under section 8 and except as pro-
7	vided in subsection (b), the territory ceded to Congress
8	by the State of Maryland to serve as the District consti-
9	tuting the permanent seat of the Government of the
10	United States is ceded and relinquished to the State of
11	Maryland.
12	(b) Continuation of Federal Control Over
13	NATIONAL CAPITAL SERVICE AREA.—Notwithstanding
14	subsection (a), the National Capital Service Area de-
15	scribed in section 5 shall not be ceded and relinquished
16	to the State of Maryland and shall continue to serve as
17	the permanent seat of the Government of the United
18	States, and Congress shall continue to exercise exclusive
19	legislative authority and control over such Area.
20	SEC. 4. EFFECT ON JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS IN DISTRICT
21	OF COLUMBIA.
22	(a) Continuation of Suits.—No writ, action, in-
23	dictment, cause, or proceeding pending in any court of the
24	District of Columbia on the effective date of this Act shall
25	abate as a result of the enactment of this Act, but shall

- 1 be transferred and shall proceed within such appropriate
- 2 court of the State of Maryland as established under the
- 3 laws or constitution of the State of Maryland.
- 4 (b) Appeals.—An order or decision of any court of
- 5 the District of Columbia for which no appeal has been filed
- 6 as of the effective date of this Act shall be considered an
- 7 order or decision of a court of the State of Maryland for
- 8 purposes of appeal from and appellate review of such order
- 9 or decision in an appropriate court of the State of Mary-
- 10 land.

#### 11 SEC. 5. NATIONAL CAPITAL SERVICE AREA DESCRIBED.

- 12 (a) In General.—Subject to subsections (c), (d),
- 13 and (e), upon the retrocession under section 3(a), the Na-
- 14 tional Capital Service Area referred to in section 3(b) is
- 15 comprised of the principal Federal monuments, the White
- 16 House, the United States Capitol, the United States Su-
- 17 preme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legisla-
- 18 tive, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the
- 19 Mall and the United States Capitol (but shall not include
- 20 the District Building), and is more particularly described
- 21 as the territory located within the boundaries described
- 22 in subsection (b).
- (b) GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—The boundaries of the
- 24 National Capital Service Area shall be as follows: Begin-
- 25 ning at the intersection of the southern right-of-way of

1	F Street NE and the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street
2	NE;
3	(1) thence south along said eastern right-of-way
4	of 2nd Street NE to its intersection with the north-
5	eastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;
6	(2) thence southwest along said northeastern
7	right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersec-
8	tion with the northern right-of-way of Constitution
9	Avenue NE;
10	(3) thence west along said northern right-of-
11	way of Constitution Avenue NE to its intersection
12	with the eastern right-of-way of 1st Street NE;
13	(4) thence south along said eastern right-of-way
14	of 1st Street NE to its intersection with the south-
15	eastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;
16	(5) thence northeast along said southeastern
17	right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersec-
18	tion with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;
19	(6) thence south along said eastern right-of-way
20	of 2nd Street SE to the eastern right-of-way of 2nd
21	Street SE;
22	(7) thence south along said eastern right-of-way
23	of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the north-
24	ern property boundary of the property designated as
25	Square 760 Lot 803;

1	(8) thence east along said northern property
2	boundary of Square 760 Lot 803 to its intersection
3	with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE;
4	(9) thence south along said western right-of-
5	way of 3rd Street SE to its intersection with the
6	northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE;
7	(10) thence west along said northern right-of-
8	way of Independence Avenue SE to its intersection
9	with the northwestern right-of-way of Pennsylvania
10	Avenue SE;
11	(11) thence northwest along said northwestern
12	right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue SE to its inter-
13	section with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street
14	SE;
15	(12) thence south along said eastern right-of-
16	way of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the
17	southern right-of-way of C Street SE;
18	(13) thence west along said southern right-of-
19	way of C Street SE to its intersection with the east-
20	ern right-of-way of 1st Street SE;
21	(14) thence south along said eastern right-of-
22	way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the
23	southern right-of-way of D Street SE;

1	(15) thence west along said southern right-of-
2	way of D Street SE to its intersection with the east-
3	ern right-of-way of South Capitol Street;
4	(16) thence south along said eastern right-of-
5	way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with
6	the northwestern right-of-way of Canal Street SE;
7	(17) thence southeast along said northwestern
8	right-of-way of Canal Street SE to its intersection
9	with the southern right-of-way of E Street SE;
10	(18) thence east along said southern right-of-
11	way of said E Street SE to its intersection with the
12	western right-of-way of 1st Street SE;
13	(19) thence south along said western right-of-
14	way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the
15	southernmost corner of the property designated as
16	Square 736S Lot 801;
17	(20) thence west along a line extended due west
18	from said corner of said property designated as
19	Square 736S Lot 801 to its intersection with the
20	southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue
21	SE;
22	(21) thence southeast along said southwestern
23	right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE to its inter-
24	section with the northwestern right-of-way of Vir-
25	ginia Avenue SE;

1	(22) thence northwest along said northwestern
2	right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE to its intersec-
3	tion with the western right-of-way of South Capitol
4	Street;
5	(23) thence north along said western right-of-
6	way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with
7	the southern right-of-way of E Street SW;
8	(24) thence west along said southern right-of-
9	way of E Street SW to its end;
10	(25) thence west along a line extending said
11	southern right-of-way of E Street SW westward to
12	its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd
13	Street SW;
14	(26) thence north along said eastern right-of-
15	way of 2nd Street SW to its intersection with the
16	southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW;
17	(27) thence northwest along said southwestern
18	right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW to its intersec-
19	tion with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW;
20	(28) thence north along said western right-of-
21	way of 3rd Street SW to its intersection with the
22	northern right-of-way of D Street SW;
23	(29) thence west along said northern right-of-
24	way of D Street SW to its intersection with the east-
25	ern right-of-way of 4th Street SW;

1	(30) thence north along said eastern right-of-
2	way of 4th Street SW to its intersection with the
3	northern right-of-way of C Street SW;
4	(31) thence west along said northern right-of-
5	way of C Street SW to its intersection with the east-
6	ern right-of-way of 6th Street SW;
7	(32) thence north along said eastern right-of-
8	way of 6th Street SW to its intersection with the
9	northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW;
10	(33) thence west along said northern right-of-
11	way of Independence Avenue SW to its intersection
12	with the western right-of-way of 12th Street SW;
13	(34) thence south along said western right-of-
14	way of 12th Street SW to its intersection with the
15	northern right-of-way of D Street SW;
16	(35) thence west along said northern right-of-
17	way of D Street SW to its intersection with the east-
18	ern right-of-way of 14th Street SW;
19	(36) thence south along said eastern right-of-
20	way of 14th Street SW to its intersection with the
21	northeastern boundary of the Consolidated Rail Cor-
22	poration railroad easement;
23	(37) thence southwest along said northeastern
24	boundary of the Consolidated Rail Corporation rail-

1	road easement to its intersection with the eastern
2	shore of the Potomac River;
3	(38) thence generally northwest along said east-
4	ern shore of the Potomac River to its intersection
5	with a line extending westward the northern bound-
6	ary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot
7	806;
8	(39) thence east along said line extending west-
9	ward the northern boundary of the property des-
10	ignated as Square 12 Lot 806 to the northern prop-
11	erty boundary of the property designated as Square
12	12 Lot 806, and continuing east along said northern
13	boundary of said property designated as Square 12
14	Lot 806 to its northeast corner;
15	(40) thence east along a line extending east
16	from said northeast corner of the property des-
17	ignated as Square 12 Lot 806 to its intersection
18	with the western boundary of the property des-
19	ignated as Square 33 Lot 87;
20	(41) thence south along said western boundary
21	of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to
22	its intersection with the northwest corner of the
23	property designated as Square 33 Lot 88;
24	(42) thence counter-clockwise around the
25	boundary of said property designated as Square 33

1	Lot 88 to its southeast corner, which is along the
2	northern right-of-way of E Street NW;
3	(43) thence east along said northern right-of-
4	way of E Street NW to its intersection with the
5	western right-of-way of 18th Street NW;
6	(44) thence south along said western right-of-
7	way of 18th Street NW to its intersection with the
8	southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW;
9	(45) thence southeast along said southwestern
10	right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW to its intersec-
11	tion with the northern right-of-way of Constitution
12	Avenue NW;
13	(46) thence east along said northern right-of-
14	way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection
15	with the eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW;
16	(47) thence north along said eastern right-of-
17	way of 17th Street NW to its intersection with the
18	southern right-of-way of H Street NW;
19	(48) thence east along said southern right-of-
20	way of H Street NW to its intersection with the
21	northwest corner of the property designated as
22	Square 221 Lot 35;
23	(49) thence counter-clockwise around the
24	boundary of said property designated as Square 221
25	Lot 35 to its southeast corner, which is along the

1	boundary of the property designated as Square 221
2	Lot 37;
3	(50) thence counter-clockwise around the
4	boundary of said property designated as Square 221
5	Lot 37 to its southwest corner, which it shares with
6	the property designated as Square 221 Lot 818;
7	(51) thence south along the boundary of said
8	property designated as Square 221 Lot 818 to its
9	southwest corner, which it shares with the property
10	designated as Square 221 Lot 40;
11	(52) thence south along the boundary of said
12	property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to its
13	southwest corner;
14	(53) thence east along the southern border of
15	said property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to
16	its intersection with the northwest corner of the
17	property designated as Square 221 Lot 820;
18	(54) thence south along the western boundary
19	of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 820
20	to its southwest corner, which it shares with the
21	property designated as Square 221 Lot 39;
22	(55) thence south along the western boundary
23	of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 39
24	to its southwest corner, which is along the northern
25	right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

1	(56) thence east along said northern right-of-
2	way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection
3	with the western right-of-way of 15th Street NW;
4	(57) thence south along said western right-of-
5	way of 15th Street NW to its intersection with a line
6	extending northwest from the southern right-of-way
7	of the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue NW north of
8	Pershing Square;
9	(58) thence southeast along said line extending
10	the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue
11	NW to the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania
12	Avenue NW, and continuing southeast along said
13	southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW
14	to its intersection with the western right-of-way of
15	14th Street NW;
16	(59) thence south along said western right-of-
17	way of 14th Street NW to its intersection with a line
18	extending west from the southern right-of-way of D
19	Street NW;
20	(60) thence east along said line extending west
21	from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW to
22	the southern right-of-way of D Street NW, and con-
23	tinuing east along said southern right-of-way of D
24	Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-
25	of-way of 13½ Street NW:

1	(61) thence north along said eastern right-of-
2	way of 13½ Street NW to its intersection with the
3	southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;
4	(62) thence east and southeast along said
5	southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW
6	to its intersection with the western right-of-way of
7	12th Street NW;
8	(63) thence south along said western right-of-
9	way of 12th Street NW to its intersection with a line
10	extending to the west the southern boundary of the
11	property designated as Square 324 Lot 809;
12	(64) thence east along said line to the south-
13	west corner of said property designated as Square
14	324 Lot 809, and continuing northeast along the
15	southern boundary of said property designated as
16	Square 324 Lot 809 to its eastern corner, which it
17	shares with the property designated as Square 323
18	Lot 802;
19	(65) thence east along the southern boundary
20	of said property designated as Square 323 Lot 802
21	to its southeast corner, which it shares with the
22	property designated as Square 324 Lot 808;
23	(66) thence counter-clockwise around the
24	boundary of said property designated as Square 324
25	Lot 808 to its northeastern corner, which is along

1	the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue
2	NW;
3	(67) thence southeast along said southern right-
4	of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersec-
5	tion with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW;
6	(68) thence north along a line extending north
7	from said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW to
8	its intersection with the southern right-of-way of C
9	Street NW;
10	(69) thence east along said southern right-of-
11	way of C Street NW to its intersection with the east-
12	ern right-of-way of 3rd Street NW;
13	(70) thence north along said eastern right-of-
14	way of 3rd Street NW to its intersection with the
15	southern right-of-way of D Street NW;
16	(71) thence east along said southern right-of-
17	way of D Street NW to its intersection with the
18	western right-of-way of 1st Street NW;
19	(72) thence south along said western right-of-
20	way of 1st Street NW to its intersection with the
21	northern right-of-way of C Street NW;
22	(73) thence west along said northern right-of-
23	way of C Street NW to its intersection with the
24	western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW;

1	(74) thence south along said western right-of-
2	way of 2nd Street NW to its intersection with the
3	northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;
4	(75) thence east along said northern right-of-
5	way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection
6	with the northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Ave-
7	nue NW;
8	(76) thence northeast along said northeastern
9	right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its inter-
10	section with the southwestern right-of-way of New
11	Jersey Avenue NW;
12	(77) thence northwest along said southwestern
13	right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW to its inter-
14	section with the northern right-of-way of D Street
15	NW;
16	(78) thence east along said northern right-of-
17	way of D Street NW to its intersection with the
18	northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;
19	(79) thence northeast along said northwestern
20	right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its inter-
21	section with the western right-of-way of North Cap-
22	itol Street;
23	(80) thence north along said western right-of-
24	way of North Capitol Street to its intersection with

1	the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Ave-
2	nue NW;
3	(81) thence southeast along said southwestern
4	right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW to the
5	southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue
6	NE;
7	(82) thence southeast along said southwestern
8	right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE to the
9	southern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE;
10	(83) thence counter-clockwise along said south-
11	ern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE to its inter-
12	section with the southern right-of way of F Street
13	NE; and
14	(84) thence east along said southern right-of-
15	way of F Street NE to the point of beginning.
16	(c) Streets and Sidewalks.—The Federal Dis-
17	trict shall include any street (and sidewalk thereof) that
18	bounds the area described in subsection (b).
19	(d) Metes and Bounds Survey.—Not later than
20	180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
21	President (in consultation with the Chair of the National
22	Capital Planning Commission) shall conduct a metes and
23	bounds survey of the National Capital Service Area, as
24	described in subsection (b).

1	(e) Clarification of Treatment of Frances
2	PERKINS BUILDING.—The entirety of the Frances Per-
3	kins Building, including any portion of the Building which
4	is north of D Street Northwest, shall be included in the
5	National Capital Service Area.
6	SEC. 6. TRANSITION PROVISIONS RELATING TO HOUSE OF
7	REPRESENTATIVES.
8	(a) Temporary Increase in Apportionment.—
9	(1) In general.—Until the taking effect of the
10	first reapportionment occurring after the effective
11	date of this Act—
12	(A) the individual serving as the Delegate
13	to the House of Representatives from the Dis-
14	trict of Columbia shall serve as a member of
15	the House of Representatives from the State of
16	Maryland;
17	(B) the State of Maryland shall be entitled
18	to 1 additional Representative until the taking
19	effect of such reapportionment; and
20	(C) such Representative shall be in addi-
21	tion to the membership of the House of Rep-
22	resentatives as now prescribed by law.
23	(2) Increase not counted against total
24	NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—The temporary increase in
25	the membership of the House of Representatives

1	provided under paragraph (1) shall not operate to ei-
2	ther increase or decrease the permanent membership
3	of the House of Representatives as prescribed in the
4	Act of August 8, 1911 (37 Stat. 13; 2 U.S.C. 2),
5	nor shall such temporary increase affect the basis of
6	reapportionment established by the Act of November
7	15, 1941 (55 Stat. 761; 2 U.S.C. 2a), for the 82nd
8	Congress and each Congress thereafter.
9	(b) Repeal of Laws Providing for Delegate
10	From the District of Columbia.—
11	(1) In general.—Sections 202 and 204 of the
12	District of Columbia Delegate Act (Public Law 91–
13	405; sections 1–401 and 1–402, D.C. Official Code)
14	are repealed, and the provisions of law amended or
15	repealed by such sections are restored or revived as
16	if such sections had not been enacted.
17	(2) Effective date.—The amendments made
18	by this subsection shall take effect on the date on
19	which the individual serving as the Delegate to the
20	House of Representatives from the District of Co-
21	lumbia first serves as a member of the House of
22	Representatives from the State of Maryland.
23	SEC. 7. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.
24	No law or regulation which is in force on the effective
25	date of this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed by

1	this Act except to the extent specifically provided in this
2	Act, or to the extent that such law or regulation is incon-
3	sistent with this Act.
4	SEC. 8. PROCLAMATION REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF RET-
5	ROCESSION BY MARYLAND.
6	(a) Proclamation by State of Maryland.—Not
7	later than 30 days after the State of Maryland enacts leg-
8	islation accepting the retrocession described in section
9	3(a), the President shall issue a proclamation announcing
10	such acceptance and declaring that the territory ceded to
11	Congress by the State of Maryland to serve as the District
12	constituting the permanent seat of the Government of the
13	United States has been ceded back to the State of Mary-
14	land.
15	(b) Report by Congressional Budget Office
16	ON ECONOMIC IMPACT.—
17	(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Con-
18	gressional Budget Office shall prepare a report ana-
19	lyzing the anticipated economic impact on the State
20	of Maryland of the State's acceptance of the ret-
21	rocession described in section 3(a), including the an-
22	ticipated effect on the budgets of the State govern-
23	ment and local governments, and shall submit the
24	report to Congress and the governor of Maryland.

1	(2) Delay in enactment of legislation.—
2	The State of Maryland may not enact legislation ac-
3	cepting the retrocession described in section 3(a)
4	until the expiration of the 1-year period which be-
5	gins on the date the Director of the Congressional
6	Budget Office submits the report prepared under
7	paragraph (1) to the governor of Maryland.
8	SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.
9	The provisions of this Act and the amendments made
10	by this Act shall take effect on the date the President
11	issues a proclamation under section 8 or the date of the
12	ratification of an amendment to the Constitution of the

United States repealing the twenty-third article of amend-

14 ment to the Constitution, whichever comes later.