



**TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS
COMMITTEE**

HJ 08 United States of America - District of Columbia – Statehood

BY: Lois Hybl and Richard Willson, Co-Presidents

POSITION: Support

DATE: March 2, 2020

The League of Women Voters believes that citizens of the District of Columbia should be afforded the same rights of self-government and full voting representation in Congress as are all other citizens of the United States.

The League of Women Voters, born in 1920 out of the struggle to get the vote for women, began early to seek redress for another disenfranchised group: the citizens of the District of Columbia (DC). The League has supported DC self-government since 1938.

In 2006 and again in 2016-2019, the League of Women Voters of the United States received grant funds from the D.C. government to raise awareness about the struggle for DC voting rights and statehood and build support for the necessary reforms. Members of the DC League have been travelling around the nation to carry the message of taxation without representation among the other slights that they have endured.

This joint resolution urges the members of the U.S. Congress to enact federal legislation or propose a constitutional amendment granting legislative autonomy and statehood to the District of Columbia.

We urge a favorable report on HJ 08.