

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-7**  
**OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR OF ARIZONA**

Strike section 2201 and insert the following:

1 **SEC. 2201. SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO DISTRICT OF**  
2 **COLUMBIA STATEHOOD.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

4 (1) The District of Columbia was granted lim-  
5 ited autonomy in 1973 by Congress, who at the time  
6 did not wish to intervene in the day-to-day govern-  
7 ance of the city.

8 (2) This grant of limited autonomy by Congress  
9 may be revoked by Congress at any time.

10 (3) Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 of the Con-  
11 stitution provides Congress with the exclusive juris-  
12 diction over the District of Columbia.

13 (4) This clause was included for specific rea-  
14 sons, notably the fact that the operation of the seat  
15 of the Federal Government of the United States,  
16 whose laws affect approximately 330 million Ameri-  
17 cans, should not be impeded by local ordinances, ac-  
18 tions, or taxation.

19 (5) The Framers of the Constitution had good  
20 reason for this concern, having witnessed the reluc-

1 tance of local authorities to police disorderly conduct  
2 by protestors in June of 1783, conduct that forced  
3 the adjournment of the Congress and the flight of  
4 its members into neighboring States.

5 (6) James Madison wrote in Federalist No. 43:  
6 “The indispensable necessity of complete authority  
7 at the seat of Government carries its own evidence  
8 with it. It is a power exercised by every Legislature  
9 of the Union, I might say of the world, by virtue of  
10 its general supremacy. Without it, not only the pub-  
11 lic authority might be insulted and its proceedings  
12 be interrupted, with impunity; but a dependence of  
13 the members of the general Government, on the  
14 State comprehending the seat of the Government for  
15 protection in the exercise of their duty, might bring  
16 on the national councils an imputation of awe or in-  
17 fluence, equally dishonorable to the Government, and  
18 dissatisfactory to the other members of the confed-  
19 eracy.”.

20 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
21 gress that—

22 (1) the Congress is the proper, constitutionally-  
23 mandated sovereign over the District of Columbia  
24 and that increasing congressional oversight of the  
25 District is a wise course, in particular improving the

1 disapproval mechanisms of the Home Rule Act to  
2 ensure that poor municipal ordinances made by the  
3 congressionally-provided, and congressionally-rev-  
4 ocable authority provided to Washington, D.C.'s mu-  
5 nicipal government can be expeditiously overturned  
6 by the Congress;

7 (2) the District of Columbia should never be-  
8 come a State; and

9 (3) statehood for Washington, D.C. would re-  
10 quire a constitutional amendment.

