

# REMOVE WASTEFUL, INEFFICIENT, AND HARMFUL D.C. RIDERS

CREATED JULY 2025

## MICROMANAGING THE DAY-TO-DAY AFFAIRS OF D.C. IS NOT WHAT VOTERS ELECTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ACCOMPLISH

Members of Congress should not be saddled with managing the day-to-day affairs of the District.

- Before the D.C. Home Rule Act of 1973, members of Congress—never elected by D.C. residents—shared the responsibility of running the District's local laws and budget with federal commissioners.
- Congressional offices fielded calls about D.C.'s potholes, trash pickup, schools, and crime, in addition to calls from constituents in their home states.
- By 1973, many members of Congress were quite eager to give up the responsibility—even those who had wanted to maintain power over the historically Black District.

## ABOUT D.C. RIDERS

Riders are additions to proposed legislation, which usually have little or no connection to the legislation they are attached to. For years, D.C. has been harmed by riders placed on federal budget bills by members of Congress who do not represent D.C.

## PROBLEM RIDERS IN FY26 FSSG APPROPRIATIONS BILL

The FY 26 Financial Services and General Government (FSSG) Appropriations bill includes riders that micro-manage D.C. These riders must be removed from the bill.

Right turns on red: Prohibits the use of funds to enact or carry out any D.C. law that prohibits motorists from making right turns on red, including the Safer Streets Amendment Act of 2022. (p. 198, lines 17-22; Section 822)

- This rider is a complete waste of Congressional time and resources.
- No one sent representatives and senators to Congress to micromanage whether people can turn right on red in D.C.

Automatic traffic enforcement: Prohibits the use of funds to carry out automated traffic enforcement (p. 198, lines 23-25 and p. 199, lines 1-2; Section 823)

- Repealing D.C.'s use of automatic traffic enforcement would cause a \$180 million shortfall in the D.C. budget and would make D.C. streets less safe.
- Local leaders should be able to determine how to use local traffic cameras to identify and fine drivers who violate traffic laws.

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Insurance coverage and protections: Prohibits use of funds to implement a local law that 1) requires health insurance to cover vasectomies and other voluntary sterilization procedures; and 2) prohibits insurers from retaliating against health care practitioners for providing legal health care (p. 201, lines 3-9; Section 831)

- This is no time to take away people's access to the health care they need and to allow retaliation against healthcare providers for caring for their patients.
- Local leaders created this law to provide access to healthcare that people in the District need and want to be able to receive.

Conceal carry from all states on public transit: Allows people who have a valid weapons carry permit from any state or territory to carry a concealed firearm on D.C. public transit (p. 199, lines 18-23; Section 826)

- Transit police (and other police forces across the District) would have to learn over 50 state and territory laws on concealed carry and take that knowledge into consideration every time a person is seen on public transit with a firearm.
- This rider would create impossible standards for training police officers who interact with public transit and for verification of these permits.

Participation in local elections: Prohibits use of funds to implement the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 or any activities related to enrolling or registering noncitizens into voter rolls for local elections (p. 199, lines 12-17; Section 825)

- Local leaders passed a law allowing local permanent residents who are noncitizens to vote on local ballot measures and for local representatives.
- At least 16 jurisdictions across the country permit noncitizen voting in local elections. D.C. should be able to decide who votes in local elections, as other jurisdictions have.

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