



Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

Winter 2008

Norton Uses Gavel and Seniority to Get Respect for D.C.!

With gavel in hand and respect from her colleagues in the new congressional majority, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton ushered in a year of milestone victories both for the District and on the national front. Her invaluable seniority, new role as chair of a key subcommittee and relationships with House and Senate committee chairs and other members helped bring dividends to D.C.

Senate Passage of D.C. Voting Rights In Sight!

Congresswoman Norton testifies at Senate hearing on D.C.'s pending voting rights bill, along with Mayor Adrian Fenty, right. More details page 2.



See Inside for Long-Sought Breakthroughs for the District

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★ Annual Norton Tax Preparation & Information Fair ★

Free! For D.C. Residents Only—First Come-First Served

Saturday, February 9, 2008

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Professionals Will Prepare Your D.C. and Federal Tax Forms!!

Washington Convention Center

801 Mount Vernon Place, NW, L Street Entrance (between 7th & 9th Streets)

Get a Rapid Refund at No Cost!

**We'll Help You
Get Your '07
\$5,000 Homebuyer
Tax Credit!**

COME IF YOU FILE 1040, 1040-A, 1040-EZ, DC D40 and D40-EZ 2007 forms only. Get the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Child & Dependent Care Credit, Elderly & Disabled Credit, Education Credit, D.C. Homebuyer Tax Credit.

The Government May Owe You!

- ◆ Earned Income Tax Credit Refunds
- ◆ \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit
- ◆ Other Valuable Credits that mean cash in your pocket

BRING copy of 2006 returns, W-2's, Forms 1098 & 1099, itemized deductions, social security cards for you, your spouse and dependents to support deductions and credits, blank check for direct deposits, something to read while waiting at this popular event!

No Need to Pay High Rapid Refund Fees— We E-file directly with IRS

It's quick, easy, accurate—and Free!! IRS confirmation of receipt in 48 hours. Refund in half the time of paper filing. Go to <http://www.irs.gov/efile> for more information.

A Free Service from Congresswoman Norton for the only American Citizens who Pay Taxes Without Representation.

Please Note! If you have income from rental property, partnerships, small business corporations, estates and trusts, or stocks/bonds sales or if you are self-employed, please seek assistance from a paid tax preparer.

**Go to back page for another Norton event back by popular demand —
Small Business Fair coming in April**

NORTON'S 2008 GOALS REFLECT 2007 VICTORIES

2007 Breakthroughs are Scheduled for Wrap-up Victories in 2008

- ▲ **Reclaims D.C.'s 1st-Ever House Floor Vote she 1st Won in Committee of the Whole** during her second term. *See below for sample of her floor votes.*
- ▲ **D.C. voting bill already has a 57% clear majority in the Senate after House passage of the D.C. House Voting Rights Act in 2007**, with a full year ahead in this session to get final passage. Local and national organizations are increasingly confident that they will pick up the three votes needed to reach 60 percent required for Senate passage.
- ▲ **Budget and Legislative Freedom from Congress Voted Out of Subcommittee.** After Norton requested hearings, she got budget and legislative autonomy bills voted to full committee in 2007. The legislative autonomy

bill is almost ready for the floor, with budget autonomy soon to follow.

- ▲ **Homeland Security Headquarters Funding voted by Senate and House, passage expected** . . . either through presidential budget submission or alternative funding method . . . St. Elizabeth's campus site marks first-ever federal construction east of the Anacostia River. Appropriators removed DHS and billions in other federal funding after President Bush refused to bargain with Congress on differences in the overall budget. Funding is likely in 2008 because the headquarters continues to have strong support from both the administration and Congress, and because of DHS difficulties in operating from 60 different locations.

Norton is Already Voting D.C.'s Will on the House Floor!

Do You Agree With Her Committee of the Whole Votes?

She cast many votes on the floor in 2007. Here is a sample from among her many yeas and nays:

- ▲ Prohibit workplace discrimination against gay, lesbian, and bisexual workers
- ▲ Support for hydropower energy
- ▲ More funding for victims of crimes
- ▲ More funding to create 100,000 new housing vouchers
- ▲ Increase funding to combat domestic violence
- ▲ Require all light bulbs purchased by the federal government to be "energy star" compliant
- ▲ Retaining the ban on D.C. funding for needle exchange after she got appropriators to remove the rider
- ▲ Reducing student financial aid
- ▲ Imposing seven-year limit on Section 8 housing
- ▲ Cutting federal funding for Amtrak
- ▲ Eliminating funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting
- ▲ Eliminating AmeriCorp public service program

Victories for New Subcommittee Chair

D.C. Economy. Using the Gavel, Norton Bars Federal Office Redlining in D.C. Neighborhoods

- Following a site hearing in NOMA, she inserted provisions to keep federal agencies from "redlining" or avoiding areas such as NOMA and the Southeast waterfront.

Security for Workers. The Chair's Security Guard Contract Reform Protects Federal Employees and Sites

- The House passed her bill increasing protection for federal employees and sites by requiring security guard contract owners to be free of felony records and to pay guards on time.

Vital Help for New Orleans and the Gulf. Norton Shepherds Katrina Gulf Coast Relief through House to Achieve a 2007 House Priority

- She used her jurisdiction over FEMA to bring urgently needed, faster hurricane relief to New Orleans and the Gulf region.
- The 2007 Katrina and Rita Recovery Facilitation Act increases federal funding for Gulf Coast communities and streamlines approvals for programs.

Norton Bill to "Tune Up" the Mall



At the Congresswoman's Mall press conference here, Thad Wilson, Will Smith and Nasar Abadey played live jazz like the music her bill envisions.

Expanding D.C.'s Tourist Economy

A Bigger, Better, People Friendly Mall

- Norton expects passage of H.R. 3880, the first bill to officially designate the boundaries of the National Mall, allow its expansion and require enlivening the revered green space by making it more attractive to residents, tourists and workers...Low-cost bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan to enhance cultural and other visitor-oriented activities, such as free live music provided by small bands and individuals and envisions brown bag lunches, new seating, tables and decent food and facilities.

Residents and Tourists Deserve First Class Golf

- She anticipates passage of H.R. 4033, creating a public-private partnership to upgrade and modernize three National Park Service golf courses here... The bill authorizes much-needed improvements at **Langston, Rock Creek and East Potomac** that residents have long sought and the District's tourist economy needs.

Save the Smithsonian

- Her Smithsonian Modernization Act would help rescue a prime tourist attraction from an infrastructure crisis that threatens the unique array of **19 museums and galleries, the National Zoo, and nine research facilities**...The bill converts the Board of Regents from overextended federal officials, who hold almost half the seats, to all private sector members free to tap private funding and give greater oversight...A recent management scandal dramatically exposed the need for change.

NORTON INSISTS ON RESPECT FOR OUR CITIZENSHIP

Wins Long Struggle Against Detested Riders

Gone! Needle Exchange Rider

Norton achieved her top life-saving priority to lift the ban on D.C.'s use of its own funds for programs to exchange infected needles for clean needles that prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. Needle exchange programs are strongly recommended by major medical and scientific organizations. This rider has driven the District's HIV/AIDS rate to the highest in the United States. Soon after the ban was removed, the District announced funding.

Gone! Voting Rights Lobbying Rider

She also succeeded in eliminating the ban on use of local funds for D.C. voting rights lobbying efforts and court relief, just in time for the all-out offensive to get Senate passage of the D.C. voting rights bill!

Recovers the D.C. Postmark, and Captures a Coin

D.C. Now On the Money! With passage of her bill to give D.C. its own quarter, the District will claim a circulating coin reflecting a unique city trait, just like the 50 states. She got the bill passed in the House in four successive sessions, but each time it stalled in the Senate until added to a 2007 appropriations bill. **Email us with your ideas on what should be on the coin at www.norton.house.gov** (Go to the Contact Me/Email the Congresswoman link.) U.S. Mint Rules: No likeness of a person living or dead, no flags, no controversial, offensive, frivolous or inappropriate designs.

D.C. Was Back on All D.C. Mail in Time for the Holidays!

She got the U.S. Postal Service to restore the Washington, D.C. postmark on most D.C. mail just weeks after learning that the postmark was rarely used.

Processed at the Gaithersburg center since the anthrax attacks here, D.C. mail did not display Washington, D.C. because it was marked on Maryland machines. As the District approaches its first full House vote, Norton insisted that the city must not lose any part of its unique identity, including all the symbols of equal citizenship and of the city's national importance.

Preserving Our Postmark Identity

After discussions with Postal officials, Norton and D.C. Postmaster Yverne P. Moore announced the return of the



Washington D.C. postmark at a news conference. Here, Norton points to the postmark, as well as to the D.C. stamp she got the Postal Service to include in the 50-state series in 2003, when the District was left out of the program.

Norton Stakes Out the Environment as a Top Priority as Subcommittee Chair

Produces on Her 2007 Environmental Priorities

- ▲ **President Bush signed** Norton's Anacostia River clean up bill, the River's first comprehensive bill. **Requires D.C. region** and feds to produce clean-up plan in 2008 to restore the Anacostia. **Also got \$35 million federal investment** to upgrade D.C.'s crippled combined sewer overflow system that pollutes the River.
- ▲ **Norton limited noise pollution** and air traffic at National Airport by blocking an increase in slots while encouraging competition for lower-cost carriers, now absent from National, to fill existing slots.
- ▲ **Norton got major provisions in the energy bill** signed by President Bush. **Examples:** 30 percent reduction in energy use in federal buildings nationwide in just seven years. Reduces carbon dioxide emissions from the Capitol power plant in D.C., and many of her other provisions.

Important Neighborhood Victories Too!

Dreaded Walter Reed Closing Blocked

Norton got language in a defense bill to prevent the closing of Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Ward 4 for many years to come...Language matches earlier bill she introduced to respond to hearings about substandard outpatient care...Argued successfully that the nation's premier military hospital should not be closed during war time, with no funds available for an expensive facility in Bethesda.

Raising Eastern Market from the Ashes

Norton got a \$130,000 earmark to help rebuild historic Eastern Market after a devastating fire...Got the Economic Development Administration to offer a \$2 million dollar grant due in 2008...Brought key congressional leaders to inspect damage to ensure federal relief.

Searching for Middle East Peace



Congresswoman Norton in discussions with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit (far left) during official visit to Egypt by six Members, that also included Israel, Jordan and Oman. Also pictured are second from left Rep. David Price (NC) and Rep. Jim Moran (VA).

Respect for D.C. Means Equal Benefits

DCTAG Makes Up for Absence of a State System of Multiple Colleges and Universities

- D.C.'s popular Tuition Assistance Grant Program reauthorized for another five years.
- Annual **\$10,000** grants to attend state universities or \$2,500 to attend private colleges here and in the region have: 1) **doubled** college attendance in five years ... Almost 5,000 students attending 646 universities and colleges in 47 states, D.C. and U.S. Virgin Islands ... Many, the first in the family, and 2) **kept** taxpayers from leaving city.

Two New Norton Bills Bring Equal Funding to UDC

- **Farm bill** passed by House and Senate. Her provisions qualify UDC for millions of dollars in urban agricultural research and extension services grants for the first time.
- **Higher Education Act:** Norton provision in pending bill extends Historically Black College and University funding to the David A. Clarke Law School. She got similar annual funding for UDC undergraduate programs ten years ago.

Norton Prison Investigation Brings Results

- **Launched** the first federal oversight for 7,000 D.C. inmates in federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) institutions since the city transferred control to the federal government 10 years ago. **Hosted** inmate/resident video conference. **Visited** prisons.
- **Persisted** until BOP admitted D.C. inmates to an invaluable drug rehabilitation program that reduces crime, unemployment and recidivism among returning inmates.



Norton Gives the Floor to Teens to "Holla Back" and Fight HIV/AIDS

To the right of D.C. teenagers and the Congresswoman, Quick Silva and Angie Ange of 93.9 WKYS, moderators of Norton's town hall meeting on HIV/AIDS, the 4th and final in a series of community meetings she held in 2007 also for men, women and clergy to address D.C.'s high HIV/AIDS rate. **Goals:** To promote prevention, safe sex, testing, and knowing your status. To dispel myths and prejudice about the disease and whom it affects. Norton offered free testing at all the meetings, as at all her events. Also pictured second, to the left of the Congresswoman, is DeAngelo Redman of MTV's "Making the Band 4," who performed his HIV prevention song at the teen gathering.

Get Loans and Access to Capital at Norton Small Business Fair!! On the Spot Applications for Bank, Credit Union and SBA Loans!!

- 💰 How **You** Can Get a Commercial Business Loan Instead of a Consumer Loan for Your Business
- 💰 How **You** Can Get on the GSA Schedule for Government Procurement
- 💰 How **You** Can Buy the Space You Are Renting . . . and Much More

One-on-one Advice From Bank Loan Officers, Credit Unions, Federal Government Contracting Officers, SBA Specialists, IRS Tax Experts And Much More

Tuesday, April 8, 2008 — 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Washington Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place, NW

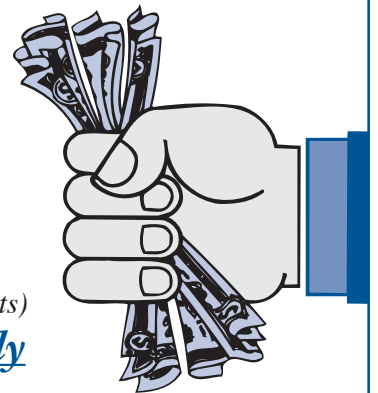
Use Main Entrance (Mount Vernon Place, between 7th & 9th Streets)

Free! For D.C. residents and businesses only

Limited seating • To guarantee seating, pre-register by April 1st.

Call 783-5065 or go to www.norton.house.gov to register • On-site registration 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

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Credit
Crunch!**



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Norton Tax Fair – Saturday, Feb. 9th