

# DOUG SLOAN 2010

---

## DC for Democracy 2010 Delegate Questionnaire Candidates Forum June 2, 2010

- 1) ***Why are you running for Delegate and if elected, what are the three most important things you intend to accomplish?*** I am running for Delegate because I believe that our congressional representative should be more involved in local issues and be more hands on regarding securing congressional funding for local programs to help District residents. I hope to:
  - a. Achieve statehood for the District of Columbia
  - b. Garner more Federal Govt. money for Education and Job Training Programs
  - c. Reduce the HIV/AIDS rate in the District
  
- 2) ***What are the three most important issues facing the District of Columbia in the next decade?***
  - a. Full Voting representation (Statehood for the District of Columbia)
  - b. HIV/AIDS
  - c. Unemployment/Education
  
- 3) ***What are your qualifications to serves as Delegate?***
  - a. I have been active in my community for over 15 years: as a member of ANC 4A (vice chair); member of ANC 4B (chair); member of the Ward 4 Democrats (vice president); member of the DC Young Democrats (vice president); legislative analyst for DC City Council; outreach coordinator for Mayor Williams; graduate of American University (BA Public Relations & Political Science); worked as a field coordinator for a successful Chicago congressional campaign; interned with Senator Leahy (D-VT), Committee on Agriculture; and was deputy campaign director of a DC At-Large City Council race.
  
- 4) ***Should statehood be the ultimate goal of the movement for D.C. rights?***
  - a. Yes. With statehood we would be treated like all other U.S. citizens. We would have two Senators and a congressman (number based on population), legislative authority, budget autonomy, the right to select our own local judges, the right to tax the income of nonresidents who earn money in the District, jurisdiction over our criminal and juvenile systems, and we would not be subjected to any amendments by the NRA or any other group.

**5) What will you do to help bring about full voting representation in Congress for D.C. citizens?**

- a. Pursue statehood. That is the best option. Having a congressional seat with full voting rights does not address the budgetary, legislative or related issues I mentioned in question #4. The constitutional amendment that would provide us with two senators and one congressional seat has the same issues.

**6) If elected, what would you do to increase awareness among those outside the Washington metro area of the District of Columbia's lack of voting representation?**

- a. I would make better use of social/internet media outlets like Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn to educate and galvanize the younger generation as well as to reach people that live outside of the Washington Metropolitan area. I would also get the national advocacy groups involved. For example, the NAACP has a national structure with local branches in every state, except North Dakota. The League of Women Voters and ACLU are also active advocacy groups that I would tap into to try to focus some of their energy toward voting rights for DC. I would also seek to reestablish the Statehood Commission, and the Statehood Compact Commission and work more closely with the shadow senators and shadow representative.

**7) If elected, what will you do to help create and protect affordable housing options and alleviate homelessness?** Preserving affordable housing in the District is critical. I support adding a fee to commercial development projects to set aside funds for affordable housing in the District. I also support adding a new tax bracket for the top 3-4% of the income earners in the city to help fund homelessness initiatives and other social programs.

**8) What would you advocate in order to revitalize the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority?** Given the number of federal workers that use WMATA each day, I believe that WMATA deserves more federal money. I am in favor of an annual federal payment for WMATA to offset some of the infrastructure and financial issues the organization is now facing.