Congressional D.C. Budget Oversight
Mid-year Removed

Next to statehood and voting rights, budget autonomy is D.C.’s most important goal. The Senate is poised to pass the Norton Mid-year Budget Autonomy bill already passed by the House. This big gain is the most important change since home rule was granted in 1973. THE BENEFIT: D.C. will spend its own money within broad limits instead of coming to Congress to get prior approval in the mid-year annual congressional supplemental. NEXT STEP: Go for the annual appropriation by getting Congress to pass the D.C. Budget Autonomy Act, sponsored by Norton and Rep. Tom Davis.

U.S. 2005 Legacy:
War, Budget Cuts & Big Deficits

Norton led successful efforts by House Minority Members that restored some cuts to school lunch programs. While eating lunch at Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School, Norton told the students about the importance of some of the programs that Congress considered for cuts.

INSIDE:
D.C. Gun Laws Saved! — page 2
Homebuyer Credit Saved from Expiring
Keep Buying in D.C.! — page 3

Free! For D.C. Residents Only — First Come – First Served
Saturday, February 11, 2006
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 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 and 9th Streets)
Get Your Rapid Refund at No Cost

COME IF YOU FILE 1040, 1040-A, 1040-EZ, DC D40 and D40-EZ 2005 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.

BRING W-2’s, Forms 1099 and 1098, itemized deductions, social security cards for you, your spouse and dependents to support deductions and credits, blank check for direct deposits.

The Government May Owe You!
◆ Earned Income Tax Credit Refunds
◆ Norton $5,000 Homebuyer Credit
◆ Other Valuable Credits that mean cash in your pocket

No Need to Pay for a Rapid Refund—
We E-file directly with IRS
It’s quick, easy, accurate—and Free!! IRS confirmation of your return in 48 hours. Refund in half the time of a paper filer. Go to http://www.irs.gov/efile for more information.

A Free Service from Congresswoman Norton to 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.
D.C. Federal Contribution – Key to Lowering D.C. Taxes and Preventing Fiscal Crisis. Government Reform Chairman Tom Davis (Va) has promised Norton a hearing on the Fair Federal Compensation Act of 2005, cosponsored by the entire regional delegation. The bill provides an annual federal contribution of $800 million, with cost of living increases, to partially compensate D.C. for costly federal mandates, such as the commuter tax ban. A major GAO report says the cause of D.C.’s structural deficit is federal, not local, improving the bill’s chances. Land Transfer Bill Soon to Senate. A valuable bill to transfer the D.C. General Hospital and Poplar Point sites will partially compensate for the federally imposed structural deficit. House passage of the D.C. Real Property Act, cosponsored by Norton and Davis, is almost certain. Important new Norton Amendment: D.C. must use training programs for employing residents and recruit disadvantaged small businesses on all projects. Lead Free Drinking Water Act for D.C. & the Nation. The 2003 D.C. lead water crisis led Norton to reintroduce the Lead Free Drinking Water Act with major Senate sponsors. She will press passage of at least some provisions to end the special vulnerability of children and pregnant women to lead. Public Transportation Security. Norton, a member of the Homeland Security Committee, and the lead sponsor of the Secure TRAINS Act, will press her $3.4 billion bill for rail and local mass transit security for such basics as decontamination and surveillance equipment. Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (Ca) stood with Norton at a major conference urging enactment. Action on D.C. Commission on Black Men and Boys Action Plan. See page 4.
What Should U.S. Spending Priorities Be?

Are Your Priorities the Same as Speak Out Attendees?

Priority Issue Area
1st .....................Fund Medicaid Benefits
2nd .....................No Medicaid Child Cuts
3rd .....................Fund Welfare & Child Care
4th .....................Fund Child Support
5th .....................Fund Food Stamps
6th .....................Fund Low-Income Heating
7th .....................Fund Foster Care
8th .....................Fund Student Loans
9th .....................No Alaska ANWR Oil Drilling

What Should Be Next U.S. Steps on the War?

Speak Out Attendees’ Answers—What Are Yours?
Withdraw troops and end the war at the earliest possible date. ..........................................................51%
Establish timetables and leave within how many months/years? ..........................................................40%
Residents’ Answers: three months, six months, eight months, one year, two years
Stay as long as necessary to help Iraqis stabilize their government and handle insurgents .....................9%

President Signed Norton Bill Naming Federal Court Annex for Judge William B. Bryant Just Before He Died

Why Norton Wanted Annex Named for Judge Bryant

▲ First African American to serve as Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court in D.C.
▲ First Black Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.
▲ Won important federal and Supreme Court cases as a distinguished lawyer when the D.C. Bar Association did not admit blacks or allow African Americans to use the Bar law library.
▲ Graduate of the D.C. public schools.

“We appreciate the challenges you faced in the two-year endeavor to honor our dear friend. News of the bill’s passage brings bittersweet comfort as we grieve for the man who inspired us with his commitment to equal justice under the law.”

EXCERPT FROM LETTER TO NORTON FROM CHIEF JUDGE THOMAS F. HOGAN, 11/15/05
Black Men and Boys Commission Plan Coming in 2006
Future of the Black Family Depends on Overcoming Neglect of Black Males

The Plan will build on the hearings of the Commission on Black Men and Boys, founded by Congresswoman Norton, composed of 12 D.C. African American men, and on a Government Reform hearing on the Commission’s work. The Plan will be submitted to the Mayor and City Council in a formal presentation. See below for a challenge Norton is presenting to the Commission.

It is time to blow the whistle on the nitwits who have so successfully promoted a values system that embraces murder, drug-dealing, gang membership, misogyny, child abandonment and a sense of self so diseased that it teaches children to view the men in their orbit as niggaz and the women as hoes. However this madness developed, it’s time to bring it to an end.... I understand that jobs are hard to come by for many people, and that many schools are substandard, and that racial discrimination is still widespread. But those are not good reasons for committing cultural suicide.... This has to start with a commitment to protect and nurture all of the community’s children. That may seem at the moment like a task worthy of Sisyphus because it will require overcoming what...[has been] described as “the sins of the fathers who have cursed their sons by their abandonment and neglect.”

From Blowing the Whistle on Gangsta Culture by Bob Herbert, New York Times, 12/22/05

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$5,000 Homebuyer & Business Tax Credits Extended Through 2006

After a year-long fight, Norton got the House and Senate to continue the $5,000 D.C. Homebuyer Credit and business tax incentives through the end of 2006. These incentives, first passed in 1997, stopped the huge exodus of taxpayers of the 70s and 80s and attracted many new businesses and jobs. This latest extension brings relief to prospective homebuyers caught by gentrification and rising prices in the hot D.C. housing market. Among the business tax incentives: a 20% deduction on the first $15,000 of wages paid every D.C. resident employed.

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D.C. Tuition Bill Funded—Keep Going to College!

D.C.’s Tuition Assistance Grants (D.C. TAG):
- $10,000 yearly to help D.C. students go to college.
- 6,500 D.C. students now at 150 colleges in D.C. and U.S.
- Bill also got UDC annual Historically Black College and University funding.
- Bill compensates a city without a university system.

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Small Businesses Can Access Capital at Norton Small Business Fair!!

On the Spot Applications and Advice for Bank and SBA Loans!!
- How to Get a Commercial Business Loan Instead of a Consumer Loan for Your Business
- How to Get on the GSA Schedule for Government Procurement
- How to Buy the Space You Are Renting
- One-on-one Advice From Federal Government Contracting Officers, Bank Loan Officers and SBA Specialists

And Much More!!

Tuesday, May 2, 2006 — 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Washington Convention Center
801 Mount Vernon Place, NW
Use Main Entrance (Mount Vernon Place, between 7th and 9th Streets)
Free! For D.C. residents and businesses only
Limited seating ◆ Pre-registration requested by April 25th to guarantee seat.
Call 783-5065 to register ◆ On-site registration 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

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Congress of the United States
529 14th St., N.W., #900
Washington, D.C. 20045

Norton congratulates Jermaine Wilson (on the right) at a congressional ceremony where he won the grand prize of the national Afterschool Youth Essay Competition. Also attending was Charles Mann, former Washington NFL Pro. Wilson attended the after-school program run by Mann, who testified at a Government Reform Committee hearing on Black Men and Boys.

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A Challenge to Black America from a Black Columnist

On the Spot Applications and Advice for Bank and SBA Loans!!
- How to Get a Commercial Business Loan Instead of a Consumer Loan for Your Business
- How to Get on the GSA Schedule for Government Procurement
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What Do You Think? Go to www.norton.house.gov
(Contact Me Page) to comment. We’ll select some of your responses to post on our web site.

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