

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2854

To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to terminate the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 18 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 16), 2025

Mr. KENNEDY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to terminate the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “District of Columbia
5 Judicial Nominations Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUDI-**
7 **CIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION.**

8 (a) **TERMINATION.**—The District of Columbia Home
9 Rule Act is amended by striking section 434 (sec. 1–
10 204.34, D.C. Official Code).

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO AP-
 2 POINTMENT OF JUDGES.—

3 (1) DESIGNATION OF CHIEF JUDGES BY PRESI-
 4 DENT.—Section 431(b) of such Act (sec. 1–
 5 204.31(b), D.C. Official Code) is amended by strik-
 6 ing “the District of Columbia Judicial Nominating
 7 Commission established by section 434” and insert-
 8 ing “the President”.

9 (2) APPOINTMENT BY PRESIDENT.—Section
 10 433(a) of such Act (sec. 1–204.33(a), D.C. Official
 11 Code) is amended by striking “Except as provided in
 12 section 434(d)(1), the President shall nominate,
 13 from the list of persons recommended to him by the
 14 District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commis-
 15 sion established under section 434,” and inserting
 16 “The President shall nominate,”.

17 (3) QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGES.—Section
 18 433(b) of such Act (sec. 1–204.33(b), D.C. Official
 19 Code) is amended—

20 (A) by adding “and” at the end of para-
 21 graph (3);

22 (B) by striking paragraph (4) and redesign-
 23 ating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4); and

1 (C) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated,
2 by striking “or of the District of Columbia Ju-
3 dicial Nomination Commission”.

4 (c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 11–
5 1528(a)(2), District of Columbia Official Code, is amend-
6 ed by striking subparagraph (C).

7 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
8 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act is amended
9 by striking the item relating to section 434.

10 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 this section shall apply with respect to appointments made
12 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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