

Democrats expect delay in D.C. vote bill

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Majority Leader Harry Reid said he doesn't expect a bill to give the District of Columbia a vote in the U.S. Congress to come up before the August break. The measure would also add a congressional seat in Utah. That would probably add a Republican to balance the representative of the heavily Democratic District of Columbia. Supporters of representation for the district had a small demonstration Wednesday outside the Senate office building. They chanted "No vacation without representation," The Washington Post reported. Eleanor Holmes Norton, the district's elected congressional delegate, told the protesters that she expects the bill to pass, even if it is delayed. While some Republicans, notably Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, support the bill, Sen. Mitch McConnell, the minority leader, opposes it. The White House has also suggested that U.S. President George Bush may veto it. The bill has passed the House and been released by a Senate committee.

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