



H.R. 5972 – UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2008

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 5972 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Robert Brady (D-PA) on May 6, 2008. The House Committee on House Administration agreed to the bill by voice vote on May 7, 2008.

H.R. 5972 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 4, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 5972 establishes an Office of Administration headed by the Chief Administrative Officer within the U.S. Capitol Police. Also, the bill requires the Chief of the Capitol Police to notify Congress prior to hirings, terminations, and promotions. Creating new positions or reorganizing current positions within the Capitol Police would be subject to Congressional Approval.

The legislation also prohibits the payment of lump sums of unused work time to Capitol Police employees that have been fired. Additionally, the legislation authorizes the Chief of the Capitol Police to suspend employees of the Capitol Police force with or without pay.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Capitol Police was founded in 1828. The force was charged with keeping Members of Congress safe and protecting the Capitol building. Over the years, the jurisdiction of the USCP has grown and the size of the force has greatly increased. Today's police are charged with keeping the Capitol safe from terrorist attacks as well as other threats that may emerge.

Currently, the U.S. Capitol Police offers starting annual salaries of \$51,859 plus benefits and then increased to \$53,6770 upon satisfactory completion of the required training program. An officer promoted to Private First Class with thirty months of service receives an annual salary of \$60,187.

[United States Capitol Police Department](#)

COST

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that "enacting the legislation would have no impact on discretionary spending, direct spending, or revenues."

[CBO cost estimate for H.R. 5972](#)

STAFF CONTACT

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