

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8748

To construct dog relief areas on the United States Capitol Grounds, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 2024

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. WILD, Mr. CARSON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To construct dog relief areas on the United States Capitol
Grounds, 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 “Capitol Dog Relief
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DOG RELIEF AREA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Architect of the Capitol, in
8 coordination with the House Office Buildings Commission,
9 the Committee on House Administration of the House of

1 Representatives, and the Committee on Rules and Admin-
2 istration of the Senate, shall—

3 (1) identify not less than 1 suitable location for
4 a dog relief area on the United States Capitol
5 Grounds;

6 (2) approve a design for such area;

7 (3) construct such area; and

8 (4) construct any additional dog relief areas
9 necessary to support the dogs on such Grounds or
10 in Capitol Buildings.

11 (b) DOG RELIEF AREA DESIGN.—

12 (1) DESIGN REFERENCE.—The Architect may
13 base the design referred to in subsection (a)(2) on
14 a dog relief area not located on the United States
15 Capitol Grounds.

16 (2) DESIGN STANDARDS.—Each dog relief area
17 constructed under subsection (a) shall adhere to
18 standards—

19 (A) described under the 2010 ADA Stand-
20 ards for Accessible Design adopted by the De-
21 partment of Justice (or any successor stand-
22 ards); and

23 (B) developed by the Architectural Review
24 Board of the Architect to preserve the historic
25 character of the United States Capitol Grounds.

1 (c) DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTE.—

2 (1) SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENT.—

3 Each individual possessing a dog shall dispose of the
4 solid waste produced by such dog on United States
5 Capitol Grounds by placing such waste in a sealed
6 plastic bag and placing such bag in a trash recep-
7 tacle.

8 (2) VIOLATIONS.—An individual who violates
9 paragraph (1) shall be fined—

10 (A) in the case of a first violation, not
11 more than \$100; and

12 (B) in the case of a violation following a
13 first violation, not more than \$500.

14 (3) ENFORCEMENT.—The United States Cap-
15 itol Police may fine an individual under paragraph
16 (2) for each violation under paragraph (1).

17 (4) DISPOSITION OF FINES.—Fines collected
18 pursuant to the authority provided under paragraph
19 (2) shall be made available, without subsequent ap-
20 propriation, to the Architect for maintenance of the
21 United States Capitol Grounds.

22 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) CAPITOL BUILDINGS.—The term “Capitol
24 Buildings” has the meaning given such term in sec-
25 tion 5101 of title 40, United States Code.

1 (2) UNITED STATES CAPITOL GROUNDS.—The
2 term “United States Capitol Grounds” has the
3 meaning given such term in section 5102 of title 40,
4 United States Code.

5 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
7 necessary to carry out this section, to remain available
8 until expended.

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