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So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 3295, HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of rule XXII, I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3295 tomorrow.

The form of the motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendments to the bill H.R. 3295 be instructed to recede from disagreement with the provisions contained in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 101(a)(3) of the Senate amendment to the House bill (relating to the accessibility of voting systems for individuals with disabilities).

CAPITOL POLICE RETENTION, RECRUITMENT, AND AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5018) to direct the Capitol Police Board to take steps to promote the retention of current officers and members of the Capitol Police and the recruitment of new officers and members of the Capitol Police, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, but under my reservation I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on House Administration.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important resolution, and I want to make sure that everybody understands and hears every word of this.

It is an honor for me to be here today to introduce with the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) the Capitol Police Retention, Recruitment, and Authorization Act of 2002. The men and women of the United States Capitol Police Force have responded in a most professional and exceptional manner since the attacks on our country last September. Let me point out that they did their jobs before that, but the attacks in September obviously put tremendous constraints and really tested the system; so I just want to point out

that they did their jobs before, but since September they have had, I think, an unusual situation here in the Nation's Capitol.

We have all been forced to look at the security and life safety issue with new eyes. Our United States Capitol Police are the frontline of that effort. They are doing an outstanding job of ensuring the safety of every person at the Capitol.

It is for this reason that we must act today to pass this legislation which will give the Capitol Police the resources they need to remain fully equipped to handle the security and life safety challenges they may encounter.

Our Capitol Police officers have responded in a tremendous way, in an unbelievable fashion to the demand placed upon them as a result of our heightened security posture. But this recognition mandates that we respond by authorizing an increase in their annual rate of basic compensation, as well as authorizing an increase in the number of full-time positions for the force. This legislation achieves that end.

Further, we need to recognize not only the hard work and hundreds of hours of overtime that the officers have already been called to work, but also the sacrifices they and their families are making as a result of this increased demand upon them. Therefore, we are authorizing changes to the Capitol Police pay regulations to allow for the eligibility of and payment for more premium pay retroactive to September 11, 2001, the day in which their lives and their workforce and their work situation changed forever.

Additionally, we recognize that since September 11 of last year, there are many new attractive opportunities for individuals who have law enforcement experience or who are interested in law enforcement careers. Because we believe that a career with the United States Capitol Police Force provides an individual with an opportunity to be a part of the very best an organization can offer, this legislation contains certain incentives to both recruit new officers to the force and also help retain veteran officers who may be looking for additional opportunities. These incentives are not only financial in nature, but are also designed to promote the quality of life for officers, both on the job and at home with their families.

I call tonight upon every Member of this House to enthusiastically support this legislation today and to send a message to the hard-working officers of our Capitol Police Force and, additionally, to those who may be considering a career with the Capitol Police Force that we are behind you all the way. More than that, we are deeply appreciative of the service and sacrifice made by all persons who make up the United States Capitol Police Force.

We all know of our two officers who, unfortunately, just within the last couple of years, were killed in the line of

duty. We all know the trauma and the tragedy of that situation. So we know at any point in time lives can be lost. We know across this Nation with law enforcement and firefighters, people involved in safety services, of the sacrifice that they make every day when they make a call and they are not sure whether they will return home. So we are here to ensure that the Capitol Hill Police Force has the resources they need to continue to be the very best in enforcement.

I also want to close by saying something about our Committee on House Administration and about the Capitol Police Force. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the ranking member, and all of the members of that committee. Since 9-11, a lot of difficult decisions have had to be made, and I can tell my colleagues that the members of the committee on both sides of the aisle cooperated at 150 percent capability to allow us to continue to make sure that this floor operates as the bastion of freedom for the world.

I also want to tell my colleagues, and I actually said this to somebody last night about the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), and that is in not one single case or not one single incident did he ever inject one ounce of politics. These are difficult decisions where somebody could have tinkered and toiled with them or done whatever they wanted to do. That never happened. We had a perfect cooperative relationship to do what was best for the safety and security of Members and visitors and, I may add, the thousands of visitors that come here to Washington to visit the people's House. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) publicly for an absolutely tremendous job since 9-11, and the countless hours of the minority and majority staff who have poured in hours to make sure this happened.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and members of this committee for cooperating on this resolution and for bringing the idea to me, as the gentleman from Maryland did, and for making this work for what is best, and that is the people's House.

In closing, let me just also say that we all are concerned about future generations in this country. That is why we are here. We may disagree on this floor over certain issues in how we get down that path, but we are all concerned about what happens to the future generations in this country. I think that every single Capitol Hill police officer, every morning when they get up, they look in the mirror, whether it is to hopefully brush their hair or comb their hair, or brush their teeth, I should say; when they look in that mirror, what they see is a face of the human being that is morally responsible for whether this planet is going to be safe, prosperous, and peaceful for future generations. They see themselves. They have accepted that challenge to