

I voted Yes to concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347, the Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act.

The legislation makes technical tweaks to current law prohibiting individuals from knowingly remaining in a restricted section of federal property, so that it applies only to those without legal authority to be in the cordoned-off areas. Additionally, the bill adds the White House and the residence of the Vice President to the definition of restricted grounds and buildings. The House passed the bill originally in February 2011, and the Senate amended the bill and passed it earlier this month.

This legislation simply distinguishes between those who have authorized access to restricted areas (such as federal law enforcement officials and individuals under their protection) and those who do not.

The bill was approved by a vote of 388 – 3.