1995, I introduced H.R. 1508, the National Children's Island Act of 1995, at the request of the District of Columbia. This bipartisan bill calls for the transfer of Heritage and a portion of Kingman Islands, currently an artificial landfill and dumpsite, from the National Park Service to the District for the purposes of creating a cultural, educational, and family-oriented park. This is the essential initial step in a process that, by law, will require other local and Federal review steps before the project proceeds.

The District is pressing this legislation at this time of local financial crisis. The park will create 1700 new full and part-time jobs, 51.1 percent of which will go to District residents. Likewise, the park will generate approximately $8.9 million in annual sales tax revenues, and earmark a share of its revenues for educational grants, scholarships and other programs for District youth and businesses.

The city council approved this project by a vote of 11 to 1. The project is fully privately funded with no cost to the District or the Federal Governments. As a result of improvements made in committee, a Federal level environmental impact statement in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act will be conducted with review and approval by the National Capitol Planning Commission.

Again, I thank the Resources Committee for its bipartisan leadership in bringing this bill to the floor today, and urge all Members of the House to support the bill.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1508 is a complicated measure that shows that land transfers are not simple matters. Numerous changes and refinements were made to the bill in an attempt to deal with the concerns of the many parties to this legislation. I want to commend the chairman and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] for arriving at what I consider to be a suitable compromise.

There is still some concern about this bill within the local community, but I do think that what the bill now has, through the compromise worked out by the chairman and the gentlewoman, is to make sure that there is local input, community input throughout this process on the zoning permitting actions of the District government.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute adopted by the committee incorporates several of the amendments that I wanted to see included in the bill. We should be careful about negating previous agreements and making moot a current court order, both of which this legislation does.

However, the bill's requirement for approval of the development plans by the National Capital Planning Commission and the preparation of a Federal EIS by the D.C. government does go a long way in protecting the public interest. I would note that the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON], who represents the area in question, wants to see this legislation move forward. She has worked very hard on this. She has put forth some constructive proposals to develop this land as a recreational area for children and the general public.

This property is currently used as a leaf and stump dumping site. Given this history and present use. I want to make sure that we pass this bill, give the District government the opportunity to manage the site, subject to some of the constructive safeguards in the bill protecting the public interest.

I urge strong support for this legislation, and once again commend the gentlewoman from District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON], who represents zealously the interests of her constituents, and my good friend, most of the time, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1508, the National Children's Island Act. Ms. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, the Delegate from the District of Columbia and the author of this legislation, is to be commended for her strong advocacy of this project. Her role in shepherding this legislation through the 104th Congress shows the importance of skillful advocacy in behalf of worthwhile legislation.

The act is of significance for three reasons. First, it is a splendid example of how the Republicans of the 104th Congress are working together with the District of Columbia to make our Nation's Capital a more attractive place to live, work, and visit. This act transfers property from the National Park Service to the District of Columbia. This transfer has the effect of making the city the lead agency for the development of this property. This is the way Congress should relate to the city. It is not prudent for Congress to be deeply involved in the details of the development of Children's Island. The city, working together with the private sector, is fully capable of bringing this project to a timely and successful completion.

This project is also significant because of the way Congress has handled it internally. This legislation deals with the transfer of National Park Service property. It is entirely proper that the Resources Committee had primary jurisdiction over H.R. 1508. I want to commend the work of both the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Lands under the able leadership of Mr. HANSEN and the full Resources Committee under the able leadership of Mr. YOUNG. Their outstanding work made it possible for the Government Reform and Oversight Committee to waive jurisdiction over this bill. By waiving jurisdiction, this project will be able to go forward in a timely manner without any prejudice to the Federal interest. I would also like to point out that in past Congresses the former District of Columbia Committee examined this issue. I have found no opposition to this legislation among members of the former Committee.

Finally, I think it is fitting that we pass this legislation and enable this project on the first day of the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism. This conference points to the importance of the tourist industry for our Nation generally and our capital region specifically. Tourism is crucial to the economic well being of the entire Washington Metropolitan Area. Tourism is the number one private sector employer in the District of Columbia and is second only to the Government itself as an employer. As the Federal Government continues to shrink it is vital that we do what we can in both the Congress and the executive branch to boost the region's economic development in areas outside Government. The Republicans of the 104th Congress working with Democrats in Congress and the city have already taken significant steps to strengthen tourism as a regional industry. We approved legislation which enabled the city to proceed with the new MCI Center at Gallery Place and to plan for a new convention center. The Children's Island project is another example of the positive partnership we are establishing. Once again, I want to commend the able leadership Ms. NORTON has shown on this project.

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1508, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended, the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAP

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2005, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make technical corrections in maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2005

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CORRECTION TO MAP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall, before the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, make such corrections to the map described in subsection (b) as are necessary—

(1) to move on that map the eastern boundary of the excluded area covering Ocean Beach, Seaview, Ocean Bay Park, and part of Point O'Woods to the western boundary of the Sunken Forest Preserve; and

(2) to ensure that on that map the depiction of areas as ''otherwise protected areas'' does not include any area that is owned by the Point O'Woods Association (a privately held corporation under the laws of the State of New York).

(b) MAP DESCRIBED.—The map described in this subsection is the map that is included in a set of maps entitled ''Coastal Barrier Resources System'', dated October 24, 1990, that relates to the unit of the Coastal Barrier Resources System entitled Fire Island Unit NY–59P.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] will be recognized for 20 minutes, and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN].

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I would like to applaud the work of my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS], who has announced he will not be seeking another term in this Chamber. He has done great work for both the environment and to advocate for the interests of those who make their living in the fishing industry. We all appreciate what he has done, and I know we are going to miss him here, but wish him well in his future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 2005, which makes a technical correction to the Coastal Barrier Resources Act by removing an incorrectly mapped portion of unit NY–59P from the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

When unit NY–59P was created, a portion of privately owned land was incorrectly mapped as being part of an adjacent otherwise protected area, the Fire Island National Seashore. This 88-acre tract is owned by a private homeowner association, the Point O' Woods Association, and has never been a part of the National Seashore.

This noncontroversial legislation is supported by both the Fire Island National Seashore and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I promise not to consume much time. I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts, for his very kind words. Perhaps now that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts totally controls the floor, we should call up the Boston Harbor Islands National Park. I would also like to ask the gentleman where he got this tie.

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. STUDDS. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. TORKILDSEN. My fiance picked it out.

Mr. STUDDS. See? It is very nice.

Mr. Speaker, everything the gentleman said, at least about this bill is correct. It is a thing we should do. It is precisely the kind of correction that is in order. We strongly support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN], in saluting our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS]. It is a rare opportunity to salute somebody who has been such a champion, particularly for the fishing industry in particular, and I join my colleague in regret at losing a distinguished Member from this body at the conclusion of his term.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2005. This legislation became necessary, and while I certainly wholeheartedly embraced the coastal barrier resources systems map legislation that was enacted in 1990, there was a need to made this technical correction.

In 1990, the legislation codified a map that designated open space in Point of Woods as covered under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982, and the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990, and inadvertently excluded Point of Woods from the national flood insurance program and restricted Federal development assistance.

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act was designed to prevent the development of undeveloped segments of the coastal barrier. A good act, as I have previously stated is designed: The Point of Woods community of 160 acres, with 140 homes, a hotel, a store, a firehouse, a church, community activity buildings, and tennis courts. The area affected by the legislation is 80 acres, with 22 houses and plots under development.

In 1991, 1992, and 1993 Fire Island suffered brutal damage in three major east coastal storms. These storms destroyed many homes on Fire Island, but because of good planning, Point of Woods only lost two homes. For many years Point of Woods has discouraged beach front home construction. It has moved homes back from the ocean front when possible, and bulldozed sand to build dunes.

After the storms, Mr. Speaker, Point of Woods developed a unique plan, together with our local town of Brookhaven and Federal flood administrators of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to move from the beach up to 17 homes and to permit rebuilding of the dunes for the future protection of the community.

As they were about to relocate the homes, Point of Woods residents learned that half of the homes were included in the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act, making them ineligible for flood insurance for new construction or for the relocated houses.

The result is that 30 years of thoughtful community land use planning will not proceed without this technical correction. Home builders and mortgage lenders have said that they would not offer loans for construction, and they would not make that opportunity available without flood insurance, which is prohibited under the technical aspects of the bill previously passed in 1990.

Point of Woods never received notice of the mapping process, and were not able to make the corrections at the time the legislation passed. This much-needed legislation will correct the mapping error that designated private property on Fire Island as an otherwise protected area on the coastal barrier resources system map of the Fire Island National Seashore.

The coastal barriers' resources system boundaries cannot be adjusted without congressional approval, and I appreciate the Committee on Resources taking up this legislation and my colleagues embracing these technical corrections. I urge its adoption.

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support of H.R. 2005, which will correct a mapping error which designated the private community of Point O' Woods on Fire Island as an ''otherwise protected area'' on the Coastal Barrier Resources System map.

In 1990, the Coastal Barrier Resources Act was amended and during the mapping, half of the Point O' Woods community was inadvertently grouped together with a federally owned wildlife preserve adjacent to Point O' Woods.

These otherwise protected areas on this map are areas within the Coastal Barrier Resources System units that include national wildlife refuges, national parks and seashores, State parks and conservation lands owned by private organizations. The inclusion of the Point O' Woods property in otherwise protected land prohibits the issuance of flood insurance, which is so vital to these homeowners. It also restricts the availability of Federal development assistance. These units boundaries must be adjusted by congressional approval.

This was an oversight by the Government that Congress seeks to correct and will benefit the homeowners of Point O' Woods. Though this particular affected area lies in New York's First Congressional District, I share the representation of the Fire Island with my colleague, Mr. FORBES, and congratulate him on his efforts to correct this unfortunate mistake by the Government. I urge the rest of my colleagues to support H.R. 2005.

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2005.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONVEYANCE OF NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE LABORATORY AT GLOUCESTER, MA

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1358) to require the Secretary