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

of Commerce to convey to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory located on Emerson Avenue in Gloucester, MA, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1358

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

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE OF NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE LABORATORY AT GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

(a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall convey to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the property comprising the National Marine Fisheries Service laboratory located on Emerson Avenue in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

(2) TERMS.—A conveyance of property under paragraph (1) shall be made—

(A) without payment of consideration; and

(B) subject to the terms and conditions specified under subsections (b) and (c).

(b) CONDITIONS FOR TRANSFER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of any conveyance of property under this section, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shall assume full responsibility for maintenance of the property for as long as the Commonwealth retains the rights and title to that property.

(2) CONTINUED USE OF PROPERTY BY NMFS.—The Secretary may enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under which the National Marine Fisheries Service is authorized to occupy existing laboratory space on the property conveyed under this section, if—

(A) the term of the memorandum of understanding is for a period of not longer than 5 years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) the square footage of the space to be occupied by the National Marine Fisheries Service does not conflict with the needs of, and is agreeable to, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

(c) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—All right, title, and interest in and to all property and interests conveyed under this section shall revert to the United States on the date on which the Commonwealth of Massachusetts uses any of the property for any purpose other than the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries resource management program.

(d) RESTRICTION.—Amounts provided by the South Essex Sewage District may not be used by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to transfer existing activities to, or conduct activities at, property conveyed under this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] will be recognized for 5 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, H.R. 1358 is noncontroversial legislation to transfer the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Gloucester, MA, to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This legislation has been worked out on both sides of the aisle, and has the support of Governor Weld and the administration.

The National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Gloucester has been an important component of the fishing community in New England, since its construction in 1968. Due to the National Marine Fisheries Service restructuring, many of the duties performed at the lab have been transferred to other labs along the coast. It was believed the Gloucester lab would shut its doors forever. However, I worked closely with State officials to ensure the lab would remain open. The Commonwealth was looking for space for their new State fisheries lab and the Gloucester lab was a good match.

The Commonwealth has formed an academic consortium with the University of Massachusetts and Salem State College to investigate the many challenges the fishing community faces. Specifically, the consortium will focus on the manufacturing of value-added seafood products from underutilized species such as Atlantic mackerel, herring, whiting, and dogfish.

Currently, Georges Bank is closed to fishing for valuable groundfish such as haddock, cod, and flounder. Fishing families are facing the extra burden of trying to make ends meet in a time when they cannot fish. However, all is not lost. There is an abundance of underutilized species which do not currently have a market. The consortium will maximize the resources at the lab to investigate new products made from these underutilized species. These value-added products will enable New England fishing families to work while the haddock, cod, and flounder stocks have time to recover. The new lab will continue to be an important component of the New England fishing community.

This legislation requires the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to conduct fisheries research; otherwise, the laboratory will revert back to the control of the Federal taxpayers.

As I previously stated, this legislation has been worked out on both sides of the aisle, and the administration supports this transfer.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I look forward to its passage today.

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

□ 1430

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

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

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, believe it or not, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] has said all there is to be said on this subject. This is a bill which the House passed in essentially this form in the last Congress. We should continue to pass it, and hope that the other body recognizes the wisdom of it. I commend the gentleman for doing it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the bill.

Is has been almost 3 years since the Commonwealth of Massachusetts first approached me about the possibility of taking over the operations of the Gloucester lab. The Division of Marine Fisheries' lab was to be closed and the Commonwealth was in search of a new facility. The Gloucester lab, which had been slated for closure by NMFS for several years seemed a perfect fit. Legislation was introduced and passed by the House to transfer the title of the property, but it never became law, forcing the bill to be reintroduced this year.

This legislation is modeled after the multitude of hatchery transfer bills that have been considered by the House in the past. The Commonwealth will assume title to the property and responsibility for all improvements and modifications to the facility. The interests of the Federal Government are protected by a reversionary clause that requires the property to revert to Federal ownership should it no longer be used for a fishery lab. The Division of Marine Fisheries has also agreed to provide office and lab space to NMFS scientists as needed. This is a win-win situation for Massachusetts and the National Marine Fisheries Service, and I urge Members to support it today.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1358, introduced by our distinguished colleague from Massachusetts, Congressman PETER TORKILDSEN.

This legislation will convey all right, title, and interest to the National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory in Gloucester to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Federal Government acquired this land from the city of Gloucester over 60 years ago for $1. It has now been classified as surplus Federal property, and the National Marine Fisheries Service will soon transfer its few remaining scientists from that facility.

Instead of closing this laboratory, however, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has indicated its desire to move its Division of Marine Fisheries to Gloucester and to undertake shellfish and water quality testing, striped bass and northern shrimp management, sea sampling, and field biological studies. In fact, the Commonwealth has testified that the Gloucester laboratory is ideally suited for its marine fishery programs.

This bill is an important partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and its marine fisheries program will benefit many Americans. Furthermore, the property will revert back to the Federal Government if the Commonwealth attempts to use the facilities for any other purpose.

It is my understanding that both the Clinton administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts strongly support H.R. 1358. I urge an "aye" vote on the bill, and I compliment PETER TORKILDSEN for his outstanding leadership in this matter.

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, 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. 1358, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1508, H.R. 2005, and H.R. 1358.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m.

□ 1640

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EVERETT) at 4 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2491. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1996.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 86–380, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. THOMAS to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, vice Mr. DORGAN.

HOMESTEADING AND NEIGHBORHOOD RESTORATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1691, to provide for innovative approaches for home ownership opportunity and provide for the temporary extension of the rural rental housing program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1691

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Homesteading and Neighborhood Restoration Act of 1995''.

SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND OTHER SELF-HELP HOUSING PROVIDERS.

(a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, to the extent amounts are available to carry out this section and the requirements of this section are met, make grants for use in accordance with this section to—

(1) Habitat for Humanity International, whose organizational headquarters are located in Americus, Georgia; and

(2) other national or regional organizations or consortia that have experience in providing or facilitating self-help housing homeownership opportunities.

(b) GOALS AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) assistance provided under this section is used to facilitate and encourage innovative homeownership opportunities through the provision of self-help housing, under which the homeowner contributes a significant amount of sweat equity toward the construction of the new dwelling;

(2) assistance provided under this section for land acquisition and infrastructure development results in the development of not less than 5,000 new dwellings;

(3) the dwellings constructed in connection with assistance provided under this section are quality dwellings that comply with local building and safety codes and standards and are available at prices below the prevailing market prices;

(4) the provision of assistance under this section establishes and fosters a partnership between the Federal Government and Habitat for Humanity International, its affiliates, and other organizations and consortia, resulting in efficient development of affordable housing with minimal Governmental intervention, limited Governmental regulation, and significant involvement by private entities;

(5) activities to develop housing assisted pursuant to this section involve community participation similar to the homeownership program carried out by Habitat for Humanity International, in which volunteers assist in the construction of dwellings; and

(6) dwellings are developed in connection with assistance under this section on a geographically diverse basis, which includes areas having high housing costs, rural areas, and areas underserved by other homeownership opportunities that are populated by low-income families unable to otherwise afford housing.

If, at any time, the Secretary determines that the goals under this subsection cannot be met by providing assistance in accordance with the terms of this section, the Secretary shall immediately notify the applicable Committees in writing of such determination and any proposed changes for such goals or this section.

(c) ALLOCATION.—Of any amounts available for grants under this section—

(1) 50 percent shall be used for a grant to the organization specified in subsection (a)(1); and

(2) 50 percent shall be used for grants to organizations and consortia under subsection (a)(2).

(d) USE.—

(1) PURPOSE.—Amounts from grants made under this section shall be used only for eligible expenses in connection with developing new decent, safe, and sanitary nonluxury dwellings in the United States for families and persons who otherwise would be unable to afford to purchase a dwelling.

(2) ELIGIBLE EXPENSES.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ''eligible expenses'' means costs only for the following activities:

(A) LAND ACQUISITION.—Acquiring land (including financing and closing costs).

(B) INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT.—Installing, extending, constructing, rehabilitating, or otherwise improving utilities and other infrastructure.

Such term does not include any costs for the rehabilitation, improvement, or construction of dwellings.

(e) ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any amounts from any grant made under this section shall be deposited by the grantee organization or consortium in a fund that is established by such organization or consortium for such amounts, administered by such organization or consortium, and available for use only for the purposes under subsection (d). Any interest, fees, or other earnings of the fund shall be deposited in the fund and shall be considered grant amounts for purposes of this section.

(2) ASSISTANCE TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AFFILIATES.—Habitat for Humanity International may use amounts in the fund established for such organization pursuant to paragraph (1) for the purposes under subsection (d) by providing assistance from the fund to local affiliates of such organization.

(f) REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary may make a grant to an organization or consortium under subsection (a)(2) only pursuant to—

(1) an expression of interest by such organization or consortia to the Secretary for a grant for such purposes;

(2) a determination by the Secretary that the organization or consortia has the capability and has obtained financial commitments (or has the capacity to obtain financial commitments) necessary to—

(A) develop not less than 30 dwellings in connection with the grant amounts; and

(B) otherwise comply with a grant agreement under subsection (i); and

(3) a grant agreement entered into under subsection (i).

(g) TREATMENT OF UNUSED AMOUNTS.—Upon the expiration of the 6-month period beginning upon the Secretary first providing notice of the availability of amounts for grants under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall determine whether the amount remaining from the aggregate amount reserved under subsection (c)(2) exceeds the amount needed to provide funding in connection with any expressions of interest under subsection (f)(1) made by such date that are likely to result in grant agreements under subsection (i). If the Secretary determines that such excess amounts remain, the Secretary shall provide the excess amounts to Habitat for Humanity International by making a grant to such organization in accordance with this section.

(h) GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSITY.—In using grant amounts provided under subsection (a)(1), Habitat for Humanity International shall ensure that the amounts are used in a manner that results in national geographic diversity among housing developed using such amounts. In making grants under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall ensure that grants are provided and grant amounts are used in a manner that results in national geographic diversity among housing developed using grant amounts under this section.

(i) GRANT AGREEMENT.—A grant under this section shall be made only pursuant to a grant agreement entered into by the Secretary and the organization or consortia receiving the grant, which shall—

(1) require such organization or consortia to use grant amounts only as provided in this section;

(2) provide for the organization or consortia to develop a specific and reasonable number of dwellings using the grant amounts, which number shall be established taking into consideration costs and economic conditions in the areas in which the dwellings will be developed, but in no case shall be less than 30;