

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 1965.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE].

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again I am pleased that the previous speaker, who said that he represents part of the ocean coastline in the great State of Florida, which practically the whole State is along the coast, is supporting this Coastal Zone Management Act reauthorization. But he deserves a fig leaf. He earned a fig leaf and he cannot hide behind it. He cannot hide the fact that Republicans and he have consistently voted against protecting the environment and the health and safety of the American people.

On five key votes, the gentleman from Florida has joined with the Republican leadership four out of five times to vote for dumping more sewage into the ocean, against protecting wetlands, for gutting the Clean Water Act, and against allowing the EPA to enforce wetlands protection. So I give him his fig leaf that is duly earned.

Mr. FOLEY. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE]. I appreciate it. It is a great honor.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN].

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1965, the Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1996, and I look forward to its passage today.

The Coastal Zone Management Act [CZMA] is a voluntary, incentive-based program which protects coastal States, such as Massachusetts by giving States the authority over Federal activities that affect the State's coastal resources. The Federal CZMA has a strong track record of successes and bipartisan support because it is voluntary. CZMA enables States to protect their rights while protecting and promoting important coastal dependent industries such as shipping, fisheries, tourism, and recreation. CZMA continues to play an important role in Massachusetts promoting environmentally sustainable economic development.

In 1978, the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program [MCZM] became the first on the east coast to receive Federal approval. Since that time the Massachusetts program has played an integral role serving as liaison among local, State, and Federal agencies providing technical review and assistance in marine policy, law, and the sciences.

Today, it works to reduce water pollution from point and non-point sources thereby enabling hundreds of acres of commercially important shellfish beds to be reopened. Last year, over 400 acres were reopened and predictions are 1,000 acres will be reopened in the next year.

Currently, Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management is assisting important ports and harbors throughout

Massachusetts to assess their dredging needs and develop cost effective and environmentally safe disposal solutions. At the request of Governor Weld, Massachusetts is leading the development of a State strategy for aquaculture. These initiatives are expected to assist in the economic revitalization of Massachusetts ports hard hit by the New England fisheries collapse.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge an "aye" vote on H.R. 1965.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time on my side.

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

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I thank the gentleman for yielding back the balance of his time.

Mr. Speaker, let me just make a couple of points. First, Mr. Speaker, I believe that inasmuch as this bill has made it to the level that it has in this debate, and inasmuch as I think Members on both sides of the aisle understand how important it is to protect the environmental ecosystems in all coastal areas around our state, that the bill certainly deserves the full support of all Members of the House. I hope it will pass unopposed.

I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that in states like New Jersey, where the gentleman from New Jersey, [Mr. PALLONE] and I come from, this bill take on enormous importance, because in highly populated areas like our State, east of the Garden State Parkway and to the Atlantic ocean, the people who reside in those areas and the wildlife that reside there and the wildlife that reside in the ocean, for that matter, participate in a unabashed way in being able to use those ecosystems which are protected through this act.

I must also say, Mr. Speaker, I was somewhat disappointed by the tenor of this debate, because we have tried to approach this matter from the beginning, in the subcommittee and thereafter, as a bipartisan issue. As a matter of fact, I think many members of the subcommittee on both sides are proud to have participated in the various debates that have led us to today.

So, Mr. Speaker, without further ado, I ask that the vote be considered at this point, and again I ask for the affirmative support by Members on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1675 because it will reauthorize the 1972 Coastal Zone Management Act. There are many reasons to champion the CZMA. But one reason stands above all others: This law saved our coasts. Back in the late sixties and early seventies we all saw runaway urban sprawl eating up some of our most precious coastlines at breakneck speed.

And my own home State of California led the race. At the development rates of the time, we thought that the entire California coast would be an unbroken chain of housing tracts, hotels, and condos by the turn of the century. The entire burden of planning and coping with

this coastal development was left to local counties—which didn't have the resources or expertise to deal with the problem. They also only focused on their stretch of coast and could not see the forest through the trees.

Then came the CZMA. It said to the States "If you come up with a plan to manage your State's coastal resources, then the Federal Government will provide funding to help you implement the plan." California and 28 other States took up the offer and designed and implemented coastal plans.

In California, voters passed the Coastal Act which created the California Coastal Commission and the California Coastal Conservancy. These twin State agencies have worked over the past 20 years to manage growth along California's coast and to preserve the coast's most unique and valuable resources.

These State agencies have used the CZMA to help stem the runaway sprawl along the California coast and we are the only statewide land use planning body in California.

And that kind of planning has helped protect California's economy. My friend Doug Wheeler, California's Secretary of Resources, recently released a report on the role of California's coastal resources in its future. The report found that coastal dependent industries contributed over \$17 billion a year to California's economy and supported over 370,000 jobs. Coastal tourism alone contributes \$10 billion a year to the State's economy.

In closing I want to thank JIM SAXTON, chairman of the Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee, for his leadership and hard work in getting this bill passed. It has been a hard up-hill fight for him. Although reauthorization of the CZMA now seems noncontroversial, the chairman had to fight against his own party's leadership which held up this legislation for over 1 year.

In fact, one of the assumptions of the failed 1995 budget resolution was the termination of the entire Coastal Zone Management Program. So I think that any credit claimed by the Republican leadership for the passage of this bill belongs solely to JIM SAXTON.

H.R. 1965 is crucial to the environment and economies of all 35 coastal States. I urge its passage.

Mr. SAXTON. 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 New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1965, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

COOPERATIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1996

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2160) to authorize appropriations to carry out the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 and the

Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2160

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 "Cooperative Fisheries Management Act of 1996".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF INTERJURISDICTIONAL FISHERIES ACT OF 1986.

Section 308 of the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4107) is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Commerce for apportionment to carry out the purposes of this title—

"(1) \$3,400,000 for fiscal year 1996;

"(2) \$3,900,000 for fiscal year 1997; and

"(3) \$4,400,000 for fiscal year 1998.";

(2) in subsection (c) by striking "\$350,000 for each of the fiscal years 1989, 1990 1991, 1992, and 1993, and \$600,000 for each of the fiscal years 1994 and 1995," and inserting "\$650,000 for fiscal year 1996, \$700,000 for fiscal year 1997, and \$750,000 for fiscal year 1998,"; and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in the heading by striking "GRANTS" and inserting "ASSISTANCE";

(B) in paragraph (1) by striking "award grants to person engaged in commercial fisheries, for uninsured losses determined by the Secretary to have been suffered" and inserting "help persons engaged in commercial fisheries, either by providing assistance directly to those persons or by providing assistance indirectly through State and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations, for projects or other measures to alleviate harm determined by the Secretary to have been incurred";

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking "a grant" and inserting "direct assistance to a person";

(D) in paragraph (3) by striking "gross revenues annually," and inserting "net revenues annually from commercial fishing,";

(E) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

"(4)(A) Assistance may not be provided under this subsection as part of a fishing capacity reduction program in a fishery unless the Secretary determines that adequate conservation and management measures are in place to rebuild the fishery over a reasonable time period.

"(B) As a condition of awarding assistance with respect to a vessel under a fishing capacity reduction program, the Secretary shall—

"(i) prohibit the vessel from being used for fishing; and

"(ii) require that the vessel be—

"(I) scrapped or otherwise disposed of in a manner approved by the Secretary; or

"(II) donated to a nonprofit organization and thereafter used only for purposes of research, education, or training.

"(C) A vessel that is prohibited from fishing under subparagraph (B) shall not be eligible for a fishery endorsement under section 12108(a) of title 46, United States Code, and any such endorsement for the vessel shall not be effective."; and

(F) in paragraph (5) by striking "for awarding grants" and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting "for receiving assistance under this subsection.".

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE ANADROMOUS FISH CONSERVATION ACT.

Section 4 of the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 757d) is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 4. (a)(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of this Act not to exceed the following sums:

"(A) \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 and 1997.

"(B) \$4,250,000 for fiscal year 1998.

"(2) Sums appropriated under this subsection are authorized to remain available until expended.

"(b) Not more than \$625,000 of the funds appropriated under this section in any one fiscal year shall be obligated in any one State."

SEC. 4. AMENDMENT TO THE FISHERIES ACT OF 1995.

Section 309(b) of the Fisheries Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-43) is amended by striking "July 1, 1996" and inserting "July 1, 1997".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS] will each 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. 2160, the Cooperative Fisheries Management Act of 1995 reauthorizes two important fisheries laws: the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 and the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act.

Both these laws help coordinate the management of species that migrate between Federal and State waters, as well as those species migrating between neighboring States' waters. With the reauthorization of these two laws, we will provide much needed resources to States to coordinate the management of these migrating species of fish.

In addition, this legislation allows the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to release disaster assistance funds in New England, the Northwest, and the Gulf of Mexico. It is important to note that these disaster assistance funds have already been appropriated and this bill only makes legislative changes to allow the money to be used in the regional assistance programs.

For example, NOAA is conducting a vessel buy-out program in the Northeast to reduce fishing capacity. Currently, NOAA is limited to purchasing vessels valued under \$100,000. This does not allow NOAA to buy-out the larger vessels, which tend to catch more fish, and are often valued at well over \$100,000. During the pilot vessel buy-out program, over 95 percent of the 114 voluntary bids received were over \$100,000. This legislation lifts this cap to allowing NOAA to include the vast majority of fishing vessels in this buy-out program.

Additionally, this bill changes the term "gross revenues" to "net revenues from commercial fishing." This change will allow the New England buy-out program to target high-liners and large vessels which might not be eligible because the vessel owner earned too much money either from fishing or from other related ventures. This type of large, successful vessel

may be the very type of vessel we need to remove from the fishery. This change will allow NOAA the flexibility to target those vessels which have had the most impact on groundfish stocks, buy them out, and remove them from the fishery.

H.R. 2160, assures that vessels bought under this program will be removed from fishing in any fishery, including State waters, by invalidating the commercial fishing endorsement on the Coast Guard documentation for any vessel participating in the buy-out program. Vessels purchased through this buy-out program must either be scrapped, disposed of in a manner approved by the Secretary, or donated to a nonprofit for the purposes of education, training or research.

As I previously stated this bill also makes legislative changes allowing NOAA to expend the much needed disaster assistance funding in the Northwest and the Gulf of Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, fishing families in my district, and throughout the country, are struggling to adjust to new Federal restrictions on groundfishing. And while some new regulations are necessary, we in Congress have an obligation to assist fishing families survive the difficult transition period ahead.

This bill takes several steps to provide relief to fishing families who have never asked for anything more than the chance to make an honest living.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill which reauthorizes appropriations for two small, but important Federal grants programs, the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act and the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act.

These two acts authorize grants to States to encourage them to develop cooperative agreements, research, and management plans to conserve and protect anadromous and other coastal fishery resources. These are not new programs. Both have been successfully implemented for many years, and both share broad support among State and Federal fisheries management agencies and the three interstate fisheries management commissions.

In addition, the bill authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to implement a vessel buyout program to reduce overcapacity in the decimated New England groundfish fishery. This buyout will be an integral part of the effort to rebuild the stocks in New England, but it will not do the entire job. For that reason, the bill also requires that a rebuilding plan, recently developed by the New England Fishery Management Council, must be approved by the Secretary before the buyout may proceed.

This is a noncontroversial bill that extends two programs which have enjoyed years of success and ensures that taxpayer dollars spent on a buyout in New England will achieve the desired

results. I ask Members to support it passage.

Mr. Speaker, to the best of my knowledge, there are no further figleaves at the moment on this side, although I must say to the gentleman I find it difficult to picture either Venus or Neptune so attired. Maybe we are immune here.

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

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of a fig leaf-free Congress, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for being here today to manage this bill and for the very important role that he played in supporting this bill to get it here.

I would also like to say to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS], I thank him for his very fine cooperation on this and many other bills we have worked on together during his tenure here.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2160, the Cooperative Fisheries Management Act. This legislation will reauthorize two important fishery Acts: the Inter-jurisdictional Fisheries Act and the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act.

These two acts have done an exceptional job of getting the States, the Federal Government, non-Federal interests and, in some cases, foreign nations to cooperate in the management of transboundary fishery resources.

Both of these acts use grant money to fund research done by the States, interstate commissions, or other interested parties. This allows us to gain a greater understanding of the resource and improve our management techniques.

By reauthorizing these acts, we are demonstrating our commitment to the survival and longevity of these unique fishery resources. Without cooperative management, these resources will likely become depleted, and some species could become extinct. I think it is important to note that we have reduced authorization levels for both of these programs by almost 50 percent.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation and I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on H.R. 2160.

□ 1630

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maine [Mr. LONGLEY].

Mr. LONGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak on behalf of the act. I think the bill authorizes two important fisheries management laws, the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act of 1986 and the Anadromous Fish Conservation Act. These laws promote, through grant programs, coordination between State and Federal agencies in the management of migrating species of fish.

H.R. 2160, in addition, will allow for the expenditure of already appro-

priated disaster relief money in the Northwest, the Gulf of Mexico, and for a vessel buyout program in New England.

Mr. Speaker, I end my remarks by urging Members to support this bill, but with a particular reference to the very difficult time that many of the fishermen from Maine are having dealing with the depletion of the species and the need to restore our stocks. There is a limited amount that the Federal Government can do, but we are trying to do what we can to provide some relief to the fishermen that are under such distress.

So, again, I compliment my colleagues from Massachusetts on both sides of the aisle for their efforts in support of this legislation.

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say that I have no further requests for time, and I note the return of a bipartisan comity down here, and I am tempted to call up a number of other bills but I will resist.

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

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say, in closing, I would like to applaud my colleague from Massachusetts as ranking member of the subcommittee, also in his previous role as chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, a very, very strong advocate of this program and many other programs, both to protect the environment and to assist fishing families. We certainly appreciate the spirit in which he has offered many pro-environmental and pro-fishing pieces of legislation, and we will certainly miss that contribution to the House Chamber when he retires at the end of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to applaud the effort of our colleague from New Jersey, the chairman of the subcommittee, for the leadership he has shown in bringing this important legislation to the floor. Again, on behalf of the environment, on behalf of States managing coastal areas, I urge all Members to vote for this legislation.

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2160, the Cooperative Fisheries Management Act. Oregon's fishermen and women who have been devastated by plummeting salmon populations will benefit greatly from this bill.

The bill accomplishes three important goals. First, the bill will allow emergency Federal assistance for fishery disasters to be provided directly to the fishers affected. Second, the measure eliminates the current cap which limits the amount of disaster assistance a fisher may receive. And finally, the bill will eliminate the \$100,000 limit on assistance to any individual.

While not a cure for the complex problem of restoring the world-class salmon runs of the Pacific Northwest, this bill will help alleviate some of the hardships felt by displaced fishers. In short, H.R. 2160 helps cut out the road blocks and redtape in the fishing disaster relief program.

In August 1995, we were fortunate enough to receive a multimillion dollar assistance package for Northwest salmon fishers who had been hard-hit by the collapse of fishery resources from the effects of El Nino and drought. Passage of this legislation will ensure that we can distribute these funds in a more efficient manner and gain the most relief per dollar for struggling Northwest fishing communities.

I greatly appreciate the leadership of Chairman YOUNG and Representative STUDDS on this legislation and their willingness to honor the requests of Pacific Northwest legislators like myself to move this bill quickly so that fishers in our districts can benefit immediately from its provisions.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. UPTON). 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. 2160, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

WAIHEE MARSH INCLUSION IN OAHU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1772) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire certain interests in the Waihee Marsh for inclusion in the Oahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1772

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

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE INTERESTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE OAHU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX.

(a) AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE.—The Secretary of the Interior may acquire, for inclusion in the Oahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex, the area known as the Waihee Marsh, located on the northeast coast of the Island of Oahu, Hawaii, consisting of approximately 36 acres (as determined by the Secretary) along both sides of Kamehameha Highway.

(b) MANAGEMENT OF ACQUIRED INTERESTS.—Lands and interests acquired by the United States under this section shall be managed by the Secretary of the Interior as part of the Oahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON] and the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SAXTON].