the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1167, 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. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on H.R. 1167, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

CLARIFYING COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM BOUNDARIES

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1398) to clarify certain boundaries on maps relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1398

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

SECTION 1. REPLACEMENT OF COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM MAPS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The 7 maps described in subsection (b) are replaced by 14 maps entitled ''Dare County, North Carolina, Coastal Barrier Resources System, Cape Hatteras Unit NC–03P'' or ''Dare County, North Carolina, Coastal Barrier Resources System, Cape Hatteras Unit NC–03P, Hatteras Island Unit L03'' and dated October 18, 1999.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF MAPS.—The maps described in this subsection are the 7 maps that—

(1) relate to the portions of Cape Hatteras Unit NC–03P and Hatteras Island Unit L03 that are located in Dare County, North Carolina; and

(2) are included in a set of maps entitled ''Coastal Barrier Resources System'', dated October 24, 1990, and referred to in section 4(a) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(a)).

(c) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall keep the maps referred to in subsection (a) on file and available for inspection in accordance with section 4(b) of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3503(b)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is identical to legislation that I introduced earlier this year, which the House passed last month.

This legislation simply corrects a mapping error that currently excludes Dare County residents from qualifying for Federal flood insurance under the Coastal Barrier Research Act.

Congress adopted the Coastal Barrier Research System in the 1980s to protect the coast from future development. When the North Carolina areas were added to the system, it was Congress' intent for the line to be adjacent to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore boundary, thus allowing certain privately owned structures to remain eligible for flood insurance.

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Unfortunately, the National Park Service incorrectly identified the boundary, which resulted in inaccurate maps. This error incorrectly puts approximately 200 landowners in harm's way, especially during hurricane season.

With Hurricanes Dennis and Floyd recently wreaking havoc on the Outer Banks of Eastern North Carolina, this legislation is a justified step forward in providing the necessary assistance to the landowners in Dare County. Currently, these residents have been left unprotected by the inability of the Federal Government to appropriately manage the Coastal Barrier Resource System.

With the assistance of Senator HELMS, the Committee on Resources, and the Fish and Wildlife Service, we have been able to work towards a solution that all sides can agree to. With the help of the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON), we were able to pass this legislation through the House earlier this year. Passing Senate 1398 today will complete the work we all started a year ago.

The importance of passing this legislation could not be more timely after one of the worst hurricane seasons in recent history. I would hope and encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me say at the outset that I very much appreciate the cooperation of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) and their staffs for working with us to shape this legislation.

I am satisfied that the boundary changes authorized in this bill are legitimate technical corrections which will resolve the past mapping errors and boundary discrepancies, and I urge the passage of this legislation.

The Coastal Barrier Resources System is critical to the long-term protection of the Nation's coastal resources, and we must remain vigilant to protect it from unwarranted encroachment.

All this bill would do is substitute a final series of revised maps to replace an earlier series already approved by the House when it passed H.R. 1431 on September 21. This bill would authorize the final agreed upon maps.

Let me say from the start, I very much appreciate the cooperation of Mr. SAXTON and his staff in working with the minority in shaping this legislation. I am satisfied that the boundary changes authorized in this bill are legitimate technical corrections which would resolve past mapping errors and boundary discrepancies.

Moreover, we have been assured by both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service that these new boundaries accurately depict the boundaries of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Hopefully this will eliminate any future confusion regarding this matter.

We also have made sure that none of the coastal barrier units labeled as LO3 have been changed in any way to reduce their spatial areas. And importantly, we have also added approximately 2,300 acres of additional coastal barrier lands to the ''otherwise protected area'' labeled as NC03–P. I want to thank Mr. SAXTON and the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. JONES, for agreeing to this addition.

Experience has made me necessarily cautious when it comes to modifying any coastal barrier boundary. But in this case, I believe we have gotten it right. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1398.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 1398, the Senate bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

GOVERNMENT WASTE CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1827) to improve the economy and efficiency of Government operations by requiring the use of recovery audits by Federal agencies, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1827

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 ''Government Waste Corrections Act of 1999''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Overpayments are a serious problem for Federal agencies, given the magnitude and complexity of Federal operations and documented and widespread financial management weaknesses. Federal agency overpayments waste tax dollars and detract from the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal operations by diverting resources from their intended uses.

(2) In private industry, overpayments to providers of goods and services occur for a variety of reasons, including duplicate payments, pricing errors, and missed cash discounts, rebates, or other allowances. The identification and recovery of such overpayments. commonly referred to as ''recovery auditing and activity'', is an established private sector business practice with demonstrated large financial returns. On average, recovery auditing and activity in the private sector identify overpayment rates of 0.1 percent of purchases audited and result in the recovery of $1,000,000 for each $1,000,000,000 of purchases.

(3) Recovery auditing and recovery activity already have been employed successfully in limited areas of Federal activity. They have great potential for expansion to many other Federal agencies and activities, thereby resulting in the recovery of substantial amounts of overpayments annually. Limited recovery audits conducted by private contractors to date within the Department of Defense have identified errors averaging 0.4 percent of Federal payments audited, or $4,000,000 for every $1,000,000,000 of payments. If fully implemented within the Federal Government, recovery auditing and recovery activity have the potential to recover billions of dollars in Federal overpayments annually.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are the following:

(1) To ensure that overpayments made by the Federal Government that would otherwise remain undetected are identified and recovered.

(2) To require the use of recovery audit and recovery activity by Federal agencies.

(3) To provide incentives and resources to improves Federal management practices with the goal of significantly reducing Federal overpayment rates and other waste and error in Federal programs.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF RECOVERY AUDIT REQUIREMENT.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF REQUIREMENT.—Chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER VI—RECOVERY AUDITS

''§ 3561. Definitions

''In this subchapter, the following definitions apply:

''(1) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

''(2) DISCLOSE.—The term 'disclose' means to release, publish, transfer, provide access to, or otherwise divulge individually identifiable information to any person other than the individual who is the subject of the information.

''(3) INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The term 'individually identifiable information' means any information, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium, that identifies the individual, or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe that the information can be used to identify the individual.

''(4) OVERSIGHT.—The term 'oversight' means activities by a Federal, State, or local governmental entity, or by another entity acting on behalf of such a governmental entity, to enforce laws relating to, investigate, or regulate payment activities, recovery activities, and recovery audit activities.

''(5) PAYMENT ACTIVITY.—The term 'payment activity' means an executive agency activity that entails making payments to vendors or other nongovernmental entities that provide property or services for the direct benefit and use of an executive agency.

''(6) RECOVERY AUDIT.—The term 'recovery audit' means a financial management technique used to identify overpayments made by executive agencies with respect to vendors and other entities in connection with a payment activity, including overpayments that result from any of the following:

''(A) Duplicate payments.

''(B) Pricing errors.

''(C) Failure to provide applicable discounts, rebates, or other allowances.

''(D) Inadvertent errors.

''(7) RECOVERY ACTIVITY.—The term 'recovery activity' means activity otherwise authorized by law, including chapter 37 of this title, to attempt to collect an identified overpayment—

''(A) within 180 days after the date the overpayment is identified; and

''(B) through established professional practices.

''§ 3562. Recovery audit requirement

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as exempted by the Director under section 3565(d) of this title, the head of each executive agency—

''(1) shall conduct for each fiscal year recovery audits and recovery activity with respect to payment activities of the agency if such payment activities for the fiscal year total $500,000,000 or more (adjusted by the Director annually for inflation); and

''(2) may conduct for any fiscal year recovery audits and recovery activity with respect to payment activities of the agency if such payment activities for the fiscal year total less than $500,000,000 adjusted by the Director annually for inflation).

''(5) PROCEDURES.—In conducting recovery audits and recovery activity under this section, the head of an executive agency—

''(1) shall consult and coordinate with the Chief Financial Officer and the Inspector General of the agency;

''(2) shall implement this section in a manner designed to ensure the greatest financial benefit to the Government;

''(3) may conduct recovery audits and recovery activity internally in accordance with the standards issued by the Director under section 3565(b)(2) of this title, or by procuring performance of recovery audits, or by any combination there of; and

''(4) shall ensure that such recovery audits and recovery activity are carried out consistent with the standards issued by the Director and section 3565(b)(2) of this subchapter.

''(c) SCOPE OF AUDITS.—(1) Each recovery audit of a payment activity under this section shall cover payments made by the payment activity in a fiscal year, except that the first recovery audit of a payment activity shall cover payments made during the 2 consecutive fiscal years preceding the date of the enactment of the Government Waste Corrections Act of 1999.

''(2) The head of an executive agency may conduct recovery audits of payment activities for additional preceding fiscal years if determined by the agency head to be practical and cost-effective.

''(d) RECOVERY AUDIT CONTRACTS.—

''(1) AUTHORITY TO USE CONTINGENCY CONTRACTS.—Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of this title, as consideration for performance of any recovery audit procured by an executive agency, the executive agency, the executive agency may pay the contractor an amount equal to a percentage of the total amount collected by the United States as a result of overpayments identified by the contractor in the audit.

''(2) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF CONTRACTOR.—(A) In addition to performance of a recovery audit, a contract for such performance may authorize the contractor (subject to subparagraph (B)) to—

''(i) notify any person of possible overpayments made to the person and identified in the recovery audit under the contract; and

''(ii) respond to questions concerning such overpayments.

''(B) A contract for performance of a recovery audit shall not affect—

''(i) the authority of the head of an executive agency under the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 and other applicable laws including the authority to initiate litigation or referrals for litigation or:

''(ii) the requirements of sections 3711, 3716, 3718, and 3720 of this title that the head of an agency resolve disputes, compromise or terminate overpayment claims, collect by setoff, and otherwise engage recovery activity with respect to overpayments identified by the recovery audit.

''(3) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to authorize a contractor with an executive agency to require the production of any record or information by any person other than an officer, employee, or agent of the executive agency.

''(4) REQUIRED CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The head of an executive agency shall include in each contract for procurement of performance of a recovery audit requirements that the contractor shall—

''(A) protect from disclosure otherwise confidential business information and financial information;

''(B) provide to the head of the executive agency and the Inspector General of the executive agency periodic reports on conditions giving rise to overpayments identified by the contractor and any recommendations on how to mitigate such conditions.

''(C) notify the head of the executive agency and the agency of any overpayments identified by the contractor pertaining to the executive agency or to another executive agency that are beyond the scope of the contract; and

''(D) promptly notify the head of the executive agency and the Inspector General of the executive agency of any indication of fraud or other criminal activity discovered in the course of the audit.

''(5) EXECUTIVE AGENCY ACTION FOLLOWING NOTIFICATION.—The head of an executive