

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2105

To restrict the closure of Coast Guard small boat stations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 24, 1995

Mr. STUDDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To restrict the closure of Coast Guard small boat stations,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. RESTRICTIONS ON CLOSURE OF SMALL BOAT**

4 **STATIONS.**

5 (a) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Transpor-
6 tation shall not close, consolidate, or reduce to seasonal
7 status any Coast Guard multi-mission small boat station
8 unless the Secretary has certified that such action will not
9 result in degradation of services that would cause signifi-
10 cant increased threat to life, property, environment, public

1 safety, or national security. The certification shall in-
2 clude—

3 (1) a description of regional or local weather
4 and marine conditions that could affect the need for
5 Coast Guard services including water temperature,
6 prevailing weather conditions, and unusual tide and
7 current conditions;

8 (2) an evaluation of the level and type of water-
9 borne activities, including activities involving rec-
10 reational boaters, commercial vessels, and commer-
11 cial fishermen, which was considered in reaching the
12 conclusion that such action will not result in deg-
13 radation of services that would cause a significant
14 increased threat to life, property, environment, pub-
15 lic safety, or national security;

16 (3) a detailed comparison of the services pro-
17 vided within the service area and the services to be
18 provided after such action, including but not limited
19 to services related to search and rescue, recreational
20 boating safety, enforcement of laws and treaties, ma-
21 rine environmental safety, port safety and security,
22 aids to navigation, and military readiness; and

23 (4) a transition plan, developed in consultation
24 with State and local officials and members of the
25 public for the areas affected by the closure to ensure

1 that the Coast Guard service needs of the area con-
2 tinue to be met.

3 (b) PUBLIC REVIEW.—Each certification decision
4 shall be preceded by—

5 (1) publication in the Federal Register of a pro-
6 posed certification; and

7 (2) a 60-day period after such publication dur-
8 ing which the public may provide comments to the
9 Secretary on the proposed certification.

10 (c) FINAL DECISION.—If after consideration of the
11 public comment received under subsection (b) the Sec-
12 retary decides to close, consolidate, or reduce to seasonal
13 status any such small-boat station, the Secretary shall
14 publish a final certification in the Federal Register and
15 submit the certification to the Committee on Commerce,
16 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
17 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
18 of Representatives.

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