

2011-K83

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION urging the United States Army Corps of Engineers to undertake emergency dredging at Montauk Harbor inlet

WHEREAS, The shoaling at the inlet into the mouth of Montauk Harbor has grown more dangerous because of this winter's series of severe storms; and

WHEREAS, The ingress and egress of commercial fishing and other vessels into and out of Montauk Harbor is seriously affected by these increasingly dangerous conditions affecting both the public safety as well as the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Shoaling in Montauk Harbor inlet has become a chronic problem; in 1999, and again the following year, the shoal grounded the draggers, First Light and Jason and Danielle; the First Light was destroyed and the Jason and Danielle narrowly escaped capsizing; and

WHEREAS, After the Jason and Danielle near tragedy, the inlet received its first major dredging in years; approximately 48,000 cubic yards of sand were pumped from the channel and deposited along the beach at Soundview; and

WHEREAS, The Montauk Harbor inlet was dredged in 2004 and again in 2009; and

WHEREAS, In order to resolve the problem at the Montauk Harbor inlet, dredging needs to be undertaken to restore safe navigation of the channel and sand bypassing must be undertaken to remove the glut of sand on the East side of the inlet to mitigate the impact of its flow into the Montauk Harbor; such material obtained from dredging and sand bypassing must be deposited to restore the beaches on the Soundview side which have eroded due to the blockage of the natural flow of sand caused by the inlet; and

WHEREAS, The next dredging of the Montauk Harbor inlet by the United

States Army Corps of Engineers is not scheduled until 2013; and

WHEREAS, Emergency dredging by the United States Army Corps of Engineers of the Montauk Harbor inlet will not only ease the public safety concerns of the commercial fishing industry but also provide relief for the property owners suffering from increasing erosion west of the inlet; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to respectfully urge the United States Army Corps of Engineers to undertake emergency dredging and sand bypassing at Montauk Harbor inlet with the placement of the material generated by dredging and sand bypassing to be used to restore the beaches on the Soundview side; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the United States Army Corps of Engineers.