



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32(2280)

The Honorable James Albis
The Honorable Ted Kennedy, Jr.
Environment Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3200
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Chairman Albis and Senator Kennedy:

The National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act (NHLPA) {54 U.S.C. Chapter 3051} was enacted into law in 2000, and under the authority of the Act, nearly 70 historic light stations have been transferred at no cost to entities for public use and historic preservation purposes. In addition, another thirty-six have been sold at public auction, with historic preservation covenants attached to the deed, ensuring that more than 100 of these iconic maritime properties will be preserved. One factor that has made this program a success is that every state along the eastern seaboard and adjoining the Great Lakes has a mechanism for leasing State bottomlands to potential, non-Federal, owners of off-shore light stations. Every State, that is, except for Connecticut. The National Park Service's NHLPA program urges acceptance of S.B. No. 866 to further the efforts to preserve our nation's maritime heritage.

For your information, we enclose a copy of the 2013 program year report for the NHLPA program, produced by the three Federal partners – the General Services Administration, The United States Coast Guard, and the National Park Service. Copies of this document and other information regarding the NHLPA can be accessed at the NHLPA website: <http://www.nps.gov/maritime/nhlpa/intro.htm>.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (202) 354-2275 or james_gabbert@nps.gov or (202) 354-2258 or anna_hollaway@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Jim Gabbert
Historian
NHLPA Program Coordinator

Anna Holloway
Historian
Maritime Heritage Program

Enclosure