

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

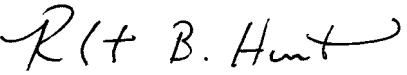
No. 1268

H.P. 843

House of Representatives, March 25, 2025

**An Act to Address Employee Recruitment and Retention Issues
Within the Maine State Ferry Service by Providing a Yearly Stipend**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RAY of Lincolnville.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BECK of South Portland, EATON of Deer Isle,
FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, MACIAS of Topsham, WEBB of Durham.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4408** is enacted to read:

3 **§4408. Stipend for employees**

4 Beginning January 1, 2026, the Department of Transportation shall provide an annual
5 stipend to all employees of the Maine State Ferry Service calculated for each employee at
6 an amount equal to \$5.00 per hour multiplied by the total hours worked in the previous year
7 for that employee.

8 **Sec. 2. Prohibition to increase ferry tolls.** Notwithstanding any provision of law
9 to the contrary, the implementation of this Act may not cause an increase in tolls under the
10 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 4404.

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill directs the Department of Transportation, beginning January 1, 2026, to
13 provide an annual stipend to all employees of the Maine State Ferry Service calculated in
14 an amount equal to \$5.00 per hour multiplied by the total hours worked the previous year
15 for each employee and prohibits the department from raising ferry tolls to pay for the
16 stipend.