

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1477

H.P. 969

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

**An Act to Provide an Exemption from Pilotage Requirements for
Passenger Ferry Service Between Bar Harbor, Maine and
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia**

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Robert B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor.
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 2011, c. 14, §2, is further amended to read:

E. All military ships navigating the Kennebec River to and from the Bath Iron Works Corporation for the purpose of accomplishing overhaul, repair, post shakedown availability and sea trials; and

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2015, c. 14, §1, is further amended to read:

F. Noncommercial foreign vessels with overall length of under 253 feet.; and

Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. An American-flagged vessel with an American crew on regularly scheduled ferry operations between Bar Harbor, Maine and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada, as long as:

(1) The master of the vessel has the following qualifications:

(a) A United States Coast Guard unlimited master's license; and

(b) A United States Coast Guard first class pilotage endorsement for the area of operation; and

(2) The vessel takes a pilot licensed under this subchapter on one round trip per calendar week.

SUMMARY

This bill provides an exemption from pilotage requirements for certain vessels providing regularly scheduled ferry operations between Bar Harbor, Maine and Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.