

17-229 Department of Transportation

2024-168: Chapter 602, Rules Relating to Maine State Ferry Service Tolls

Statutory Authority:	23 M.R.S. §52; 23 M.R.S. §4404
Type:	Routine Technical
Emergency?:	No
Fiscal Impact:	<i>This Rule will have no fiscal impact on the State of Maine General Fund.</i>
Principal purpose:	<i>The Department of Transportation proposes to revise Chapter 602 to update Maine State Ferry Service (MSFS) tolls at rates that are anticipated to generate sufficient revenue to pay for continued operation of the MSFS in light of the limitation on state support contained in 23 M.R.S. §4210-C.</i>
Basis Statement:	<i>This rule establishes tolls for the Maine State Ferry Service pursuant to 23 M.R.S. § 4404. The toll rates in the rule are anticipated to generate sufficient revenue to pay for the continued operation of the Ferry Service in light of the limitation on State support contained in 23 M.R.S. § 4210-C.</i>

17-387 Department of Transportation, Maine Pilotage Commission

2024-219: Chapter 2, Pilotage Rates

Statutory Authority:	38 M.R.S.A. § 90 (1) (B)
Type:	Routine Technical
Emergency?:	No
Fiscal Impact:	<i>This rule is not anticipated to have any financial impact on municipalities or counties, however, maritime pilotage users (shipping companies, vessel owners, and/or vessel operators) will be obligated by Rule to pay for pilotage services rendered within waters subject to the jurisdiction of the Maine Pilotage Commission. In some cases, the pilotage fees are proposed to increase based on changing operational climate, pilot infrastructure costs, and general increases to cost of living.</i>
Principal purpose:	<i>The Maine Pilotage Commission seeks to codify within the Maine Pilotage Rules related to pilotage rates contained in Title 17: Department of Transportation, Number 387: Maine Pilotage Commission, Chapter 2: Pilotage Rates. The new proposed rules will establish the rates of pilotage that Maine state licensed pilots may charge customers to pilot vessels that transit Maine pilotage waters within the jurisdiction of the Maine Pilotage Commission. Specifically, the waterways covered by this rule will include the Kennebec River, Sheepscot River, Penobscot Bay (including Rockland, Camden, Castine, Belfast and Searsport), Penobscot River (including Bucksport, Brewer, and Bangor) Frenchman Bay, Somes Sound, Blue Hill Bay, and Eastport/Cobscook Bay. Pilotage rates vary within Maine waters (from port to port) based on factors including pilotage units which is derived from a mathematical formula largely based on the vessel's length, breadth, and depth. Other factors include distance and complexity of transits. The proposed Rule may also contain additional fees pilots may charge. If approved, new rates will become effective October 1, 2024.</i>
Basis Statement:	<i>This rule establishes rates of pilotage pursuant to 38 M.R.S. Section 90-1B. The rates in the rule are established to generate sufficient revenue to support a sustainable system of pilotage to assure safe and efficient marine transportation of passengers and cargo to Maine ports. The effective date of the Rule and the associated rates of pilotage is October 1, 2024. No comments were received during the comment period and thus no responses were necessary.</i>