



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 43

H.P. 9

House of Representatives, January 13, 2021

**An Act To Require the Department of Transportation To Provide
Ferry Service to Frenchboro**

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 11, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative McDONALD of Stonington.
Cosponsored by Senator LUCHINI of Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4401**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 20, §1, is further amended to
3 read:

4 **§4401. Ferry service for North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Matinicus Isle, Swan's**
5 **Island and Frenchboro**

6 It is the duty of the Department of Transportation to operate a ferry route or routes
7 between the mainland and the towns of North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Matinicus Isle
8 ~~and~~, Swan's Island and Frenchboro for the purpose of transporting vehicles, freight and
9 passengers to and from these towns, ~~and the department may operate the ferry route or~~
10 ~~routes to and from Frenchboro~~. Ferry service to Matinicus Isle must be at least 12 times per
11 year and may be up to 36 times per year and may be provided by state-owned or privately
12 contracted vessels. These ferry routes are designated as the "Maine State Ferry Service."
13 During periods of facility repair or maintenance or during periods of extraordinary demand,
14 the department may carry out its responsibilities by utilizing privately contracted vessels
15 to provide additional or substitute service to islands served by the Maine State Ferry Service
16 as long as the use of privately contracted vessels is in accordance with an agreement
17 between the department and the State's collective bargaining agent as defined in Title 26,
18 section 979-A, subsection 1.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires the Department of Transportation to provide ferry service to
21 Frenchboro.