



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1477

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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**

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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.