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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**TRANSPORTATION**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 843, L.D. 1268, “An Act to Address Employee Recruitment and Retention Issues Within the Maine State Ferry Service by Providing a Yearly Stipend”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

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

**§4408. Stipend for employees**

Beginning January 1, 2027, the Department of Transportation shall provide an annual reliability performance stipend of \$3,000 to all full-time state employees of the Maine State Ferry Service. The employee must receive the stipend as a lump-sum payment by December 1st of each year the employee qualifies for the stipend. For the purposes of this section, "reliability performance stipend" means a stipend paid to a full-time state employee of the Maine State Ferry Service when the Maine State Ferry Service achieves 99% of schedule reliability for all scheduled Maine State Ferry Service operations from November 1st to October 31st. The stipend is not affected by scheduled operations canceled due to weather. Tolls under section 4404 may not be increased to cover the cost of stipends under this section.

**Sec. 2. Transfer from the Highway Fund unallocated surplus; Department of Transportation, Multimodal-Island Ferry Service.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before December 1, 2027, and every December 1st thereafter, the State Controller shall transfer \$450,000 from the unallocated surplus of the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation, Multimodal-Island Ferry Service program, enterprise account for providing annual stipends to qualified employees of the Maine State Ferry Service.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which replaces the bill and is the minority report of the committee, requires the Department of Transportation to provide an annual reliability performance stipend of \$3,000 to all qualifying full-time state employees of the Maine State Ferry Service. A qualifying employee must receive the stipend as a lump sum by December 1st of each year.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**