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Legislative Document

No. 152

H.P. 108

House of Representatives, January 21, 2021

An Act To Address Training Requirements for Harbor Masters

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 19, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Marine Resources 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 McCREIGHT of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and
Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, MATLACK of St. George, O'NEIL of Saco,
PIERCE of Falmouth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1-A**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 54, §1, is further amended to
3 read:

4 **§1-A. Training**

5 The following provisions govern the training of harbor masters and deputy harbor
6 masters appointed pursuant to section 1 or 2.

7 **1. Basic training course.** A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master or a
8 deputy harbor master after August 31, 2006 must complete a basic harbor master training
9 course offered by a statewide harbor masters association that represents Maine harbor
10 masters within one year after being appointed or reappointed unless that person has
11 previously completed such a course. The If a person has not held the position of harbor
12 master or deputy harbor master within the last 5 years prior to being appointed or
13 reappointed, that person upon appointment or reappointment must complete the basic
14 harbor master training course. A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master or deputy
15 harbor master shall pay the cost of the training required under this subsection, except that
16 the cost of the training may be paid by the municipality at its sole discretion.

17 **1-A. Advanced training course.** A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master
18 or deputy harbor master after January 1, 2022 who has completed the basic training course
19 under subsection 1 shall complete an advanced harbor master training course offered by a
20 statewide harbor masters association that represents Maine harbor masters within 2 years
21 after completing the basic training course under subsection 1.

22 **1-B. Continuing education.** A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master or
23 deputy harbor master who has completed the basic training course under subsection 1 and
24 the advanced training course under subsection 1-A shall attend, at a minimum, training
25 every other year to maintain certification as a harbor master or deputy harbor master. The
26 training requirement of this subsection may be met by completing continuing education
27 training offered by a statewide harbor masters association that represents Maine harbor
28 masters.

29 **2. Reimbursement.** Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a
30 municipality, at its sole discretion, from reimbursing a harbor master or deputy harbor
31 master for the cost of training under this section.

32 **3. Additional training.** Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a
33 municipality from requiring a harbor master or deputy harbor master to obtain training
34 beyond that required by this section.

35 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill amends the basic training requirements for harbor masters and deputy harbor
37 masters. The bill also adds new requirements for advanced training and continuing
38 education.