



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 234

H.P. 164

House of Representatives, January 27, 2021

**An Act To Amend the Law Concerning the Annual Number of
Ferry Service Trips to Matinicus Isle**

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 25, 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 MATLACK of St. George.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox.

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

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill amends the law concerning ferry service to Matinicus Isle to remove the upper
21 limit on the number of times per year the ferry may travel to Matinicus Isle.