

STATE OF MAINE

—  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND AND SIXTEEN

—  
S.P. 566 - L.D. 1468

**Resolve, To Improve the Safety of Ferries in the State**

**Sec. 1. Peer review assessment; operations and safety. Resolved:** That the Department of Transportation shall execute a peer review assessment of Maine State Ferry Service processes to evaluate safety procedures and marine operations of the Maine State Ferry Service. For purposes of this resolve, "Maine State Ferry Service" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 4401. The peer review assessment must include an examination of the recommendations in the report titled "Maine State Ferry Service, MaineDOT, Operational Safety Assessment (OSA) Report," dated April 4, 2008 and written by Safety Management Systems, LLC. The peer review assessment must include, at a minimum, comments relating to:

1. Appropriate staffing levels for vessels operated by the Maine State Ferry Service;
2. An adequate minimum mandatory training level for each position within the Maine State Ferry Service; and
3. Standard operating procedures relating to crew stations and duties while in port and at sea and decisions regarding passengers who fall overboard, firefighting, extreme weather conditions, abandoning ship and other emergency procedures; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Operational changes relating to Maine State Ferry Service. Resolved:** That, by June 1, 2017, the Department of Transportation shall adopt rules relating to the Maine State Ferry Service in accordance with this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The rules must:

1. Require all vessels operating for the Maine State Ferry Service to be outfitted with a lockbox for medical samples. The rules must provide for the transport of medical diagnostic samples, including, but not limited to, allowing medical personnel access to the lockbox;
2. Include procedures to modernize customer services, including, but not limited to, passenger wait lines, slot times and seasonal rates. The procedures must be developed

with the goal of improving customer service and identifying opportunities for increased revenue; and

3. Implement a standardized process to improve training of Maine State Ferry Service employees. The rules must require that, to the extent it is practicable, vessel crew training be accomplished before reporting for duty, including, but not limited to, familiarization with the vessel the crew member will be working on. Vessel crew training must include, but is not limited to, the location and operation of emergency equipment and firefighting equipment and vessel-specific procedures, overboard drills and duty stations in port and at sea. The training may be accomplished by the port captain except for training that must be accomplished while the vessel is under way. Training under this subsection must satisfy the applicable federal regulations for ferry boats and ferry service training protocols; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than February 1, 2017, the Department of Transportation shall submit a report with the results of the peer review assessment under section 1 and a progress report on its rules developed pursuant to section 2 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters may submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature related to the reports; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF  
Multimodal - Island Ferry Service Z016**

Initiative: Provides allocations to conduct a peer review of the Maine State Ferry Service and to outfit all Maine State Ferry Service vessels with lockboxes for medical samples.

<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
Personal Services	\$0	\$5,000
All Other	\$0	\$1,500
<b>HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>

<b>ISLAND FERRY SERVICES FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
Personal Services	\$0	\$10,000
All Other	\$0	\$3,000
<b>ISLAND FERRY SERVICES FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>