



Quoddy Pilots USA  
99 Toll Bridge Road  
Eastport, Maine 04631  
U.S.A.



May 14, 2025

**Ref: LD 1245**

**Dear Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:**

My name is Captain Bob Peacock of Eastport, Maine. I am writing in favor of LD 1245.

I would like to comment on LD 1245, An Act to Enable the Maine Pilotage Commission to Oversee Pilots Operating in Portland Harbor.

I am a Maine licensed ship pilot in Eastport, Maine covering Eastport, Cobscook, and Passamaquoddy Area. I also hold Federal Pilotage for Bar Harbor and Frenchman Bay and Penobscot Bay and River to Bangor.

I have been a pilot in Maine for 49 years and served on the Maine Pilotage Commission for many years. I have watched the evolution and growth of the Maine Pilotage Commission over those years and worked closely with the Portland Pilots over those years and watched the dual systems of pilotage regulation (Maine Pilotage Commission and the Portland Board of Harbor Commissioners) under which we work.

It is time to consolidate the jurisdiction of pilots working on the coast of Maine. This bill will bring better cooperation and coordination between pilots and pilot groups. We have many very large ships (up to 1,064 feet long carrying up to 6000 passengers and crew) which operate between Portland and Eastport.

This bill will allow for better joint training and joint standards which will only help increase safety along our beautiful coast. This bill offers a two-year phased approach to bring better clarity and operations to Maine pilotage. The most important reason for passing this bill is safety; safety for the ships, safety for the pilots, and safety for our Maine coast.

Very respectfully,

**Bob Peacock**

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