

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 484**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson**

February 23, 2015

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An act to amend Section 281 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, relating to navigation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 484, as introduced, Gipson. Navigation rules: meeting vessels.

Existing law requires that, whenever any vessel, whether a steam vessel or sailing vessel, proceeding in one direction, meets another vessel, whether a steam vessel or sailing vessel, proceeding in the opposite direction, so that if both were to continue their respective courses they would pass so near as to involve the risk of a collision, each vessel give right rudder, so as to pass on the port side of each other.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change in those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 281 of the Harbors and Navigation Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 281. Whenever any vessel, whether a steam vessel or sailing
- 4 vessel, proceeding in one direction, meets another vessel, whether
- 5 a steam vessel or sailing vessel, proceeding in the opposite
- 6 direction, so that if both were to continue their respective courses
- 7 they would pass so near as to involve the risk of a collision, each
- 8 vessel shall give right rudder, so as to pass on the port side of each

1 other. This rule applies to all steam vessels and all sailing vessels  
2 whether on the port or starboard tack, and whether close-hauled  
3 or not, except where the circumstances of the case are such as to  
4 render a departure from the rule necessary in order to avoid  
5 immediate danger. It is subject to a due regard to the dangers of  
6 navigation, and, as regards sailing vessels on the starboard tack  
7 close-hauled, it is subject also to the keeping of such sailing vessels  
8 under command.

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