

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 18, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 4, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 31, 2009

SENATE BILL

No. 300

Introduced by Senator Yee

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Torlakson)

February 25, 2009

An act to amend Sections 1130, 1156.6, 1157.1, 1171.5, 1176, 1190, and 1196 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, relating to harbors and ports, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 300, as amended, Yee. Harbors and ports: Monterey Bay and the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun: pilotage rates: continuing education.

(1) Existing law provides for the regulation and licensing of pilots for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, Suisun, and Monterey by the Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun. Existing law requires the board to adopt standards and a training program for pilots, inland pilots, and pilot trainees.

This bill would instead require the board to adopt training standards and a training program for pilot trainees, and continuing education standards and a continuing education program for pilots and inland pilots. The bill would require that fees from the surcharge for each movement of a vessel using pilot services used for a training program for pilots and inland pilots be used instead to fund a pilot and inland pilot continuing education program.

(2) Existing law provides that all records of the board relating to the personal information of a pilot are confidential and shall not be open to public inspection.

This bill would include within that provision personal information of an inland; pilot, a pilot trainee, and an applicant to the pilot training program.

(3) Existing law specifies the rates of pilotage for vessels entering or leaving Monterey Bay and the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun through the Golden Gate Bridge. Existing law establishes the mill rate chargeable to those vessels and authorizes that rate to be changed under certain circumstances, including when the number of licensed pilots is reduced to 60 pilots or falls below 60 pilots.

This bill would eliminate the general requirement to change the rate under certain circumstances and instead require that the mill rate in effect on January 1, 2006, be changed, as provided, if at any time, the number of pilots licensed by the board is fewer than 60.

Existing

(4) Existing law also imposes an incremental rate of additional mills per high gross registered ton as is necessary and authorized by the Board of Pilot Commissioners to recover the pilots' costs of obtaining new pilot boats and of funding design and engineering modifications for the purposes of extending the service life of existing pilot boats, excluding costs for repair or maintenance.

~~This bill would delete the provision authorizing the rate to be changed when the number of licensed pilots is reduced to 60 pilots or falls below 60 pilots. This bill would also require, until January 1, 2011, a movement fee as is necessary and authorized by the board to be paid as a navigation technology surcharge in order to recover the pilots' costs for the purchase, lease, or maintenance of navigation software, hardware, and ancillary equipment purchased after November 5, 2008, and before January 1, 2011.~~

Existing law requires that all moneys received by the Board of Pilot Commissioners pursuant to the provisions of any law shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Board of Pilot Commissioners' Special Fund and are continuously appropriated to the board for the payment of the compensation and expenses of the board and its officers and employees.

By increasing the amount of revenue deposited into a continuously appropriated fund and by authorizing the expenditure of money in that fund for a new purpose, the bill would make an appropriation.

(4)

(5) The bill would also make technical changes.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1130 of the Harbors and Navigation Code
2 is amended to read:

3 1130. (a) A majority of all of the pilots licensed by the board
4 shall appoint one pilot to act as port agent to carry out the orders
5 of the board and other applicable laws, and to otherwise administer
6 the affairs of the pilots. The appointment is subject to the
7 confirmation of the board.

8 (b) The port agent shall be responsible for the general
9 supervision and management of all matters related to the business
10 and official duties of pilots licensed by the board.

11 (c) The port agent shall immediately notify the executive director
12 of the board of a suspected violation, navigational incident,
13 misconduct, or other rules violation that is reported to him or her
14 or to which he or she is a witness. The board shall adopt regulations
15 for the manner and content of a notice provided pursuant to this
16 section.

17 SEC. 2. Section 1156.6 of the Harbors and Navigation Code
18 is amended to read:

19 1156.6. (a) Whenever suspected safety standard violations
20 concerning pilot hoists, pilot ladders, or the proper rigging of pilot
21 hoists or pilot ladders are reported to the board, the executive
22 director shall assign a commission investigator to personally inspect
23 the equipment for its compliance with the relevant safety standards
24 promulgated by the United States Coast Guard and the International
25 Maritime Organization. The commission investigator shall report
26 preliminary conclusions, including an assessment of the
27 equipment's compliance with the relevant safety standards, to the
28 executive director as soon as possible. If, in the preliminary report,
29 the equipment is found to be in violation, or in likely violation in
30 the opinion of the commission investigator, of the relevant safety
31 standards, the executive director shall immediately alert the
32 cognizant United States Coast Guard—~~district~~ office. The
33 commission investigator shall submit a written report to the

1 incident review committee as established by subdivision (a) of
2 Section 1180.3 that shall remain confidential until reported to the
3 board. The incident review committee, in turn, shall report its
4 findings and recommendations, if any, to the board. The board
5 shall receive the incident review committee's findings, which may
6 include other reports, information, or statements from interested
7 parties. The board shall specify, by regulation, the information
8 that shall be contained in the report.

9 (b) This section applies to the pilotage grounds, as defined in
10 Section 1114.5. Whenever a vessel passes outside of the pilotage
11 grounds, the commission investigator's report shall include that
12 fact along with a description of the incident.

13 (c) The record of the investigation and the board's findings and
14 recommendations, if any, shall be a public record maintained by
15 the board.

16 SEC. 3. Section 1157.1 of the Harbors and Navigation Code
17 is amended to read:

18 1157.1. (a) Except as provided in Section 1157.4, all records
19 of the board relating to the personal information of a pilot, an
20 inland pilot, a pilot trainee, or an applicant to the pilot trainee
21 training program are confidential and shall not be open to public
22 inspection.

23 (b) For purposes of this section, "personal information" means
24 information, other than the name and mailing address, that
25 identifies an individual, including an individual's photograph,
26 social security number, address, telephone number, and medical
27 or disability information, but does not include other information
28 related to licensing such as incidents, rules or safety violations,
29 misconduct, training records, commendations, and license status.

30 SEC. 4. Section 1171.5 of the Harbors and Navigation Code
31 is amended to read:

32 1171.5. (a) The board shall adopt, by regulation, licensing
33 standards that equal or exceed standards for obtaining federal
34 endorsements and that conform with and support the state policy
35 specified in Sections 1100 and 1101.

36 (b) The board shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations that
37 require pilots to be qualified to perform all pilot duties.

38 (c) The board shall adopt, by regulation, training standards and
39 a training program for pilot trainees, and continuing education
40 standards and a continuing education program for pilots and inland

1 pilots. In the case of pilot trainees, the training program shall be
2 for a minimum of one year and a maximum of three years. In the
3 case of pilots and inland pilots, the board shall specify the type,
4 nature, duration, and frequency of the continuing education
5 required and the identity of the pilots or inland pilots who are
6 required to undergo continuing education in the next 12-month
7 period. Pursuant to Section 1182, the license of a pilot or an inland
8 pilot may be revoked or suspended if he or she fails to complete
9 the continuing education required by this subdivision during the
10 period specified. The board shall also require that an evaluation
11 of the pilot's or inland pilot's performance be prepared by the
12 institution selected by the board to provide pilot continuing
13 education, and the institution shall provide copies of the evaluation
14 to the pilot or inland pilot and to the pilot evaluation committee.

15 (d) The board shall adopt, by regulation, the qualifications,
16 standards, and rating criteria for admission of pilot trainees to the
17 training program. Notwithstanding subdivision (f), the board shall
18 administer and conduct the pilot trainee admission selection in
19 accordance with the regulations for admission.

20 (e) The board shall establish a pilot evaluation committee
21 consisting of five active pilots who each have at least 10 years'
22 experience as a pilot on the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and
23 Suisun. The board shall select the members of the pilot evaluation
24 committee. A member may not serve for more than two four-year
25 terms, except that two of the initial members appointed to the pilot
26 evaluation committee shall serve terms of two years.

27 (f) The pilot evaluation committee shall conduct and supervise
28 the training and continuing education programs pursuant to the
29 direction and regulation of the board and consistent with the intent
30 of this division.

31 (g) The board shall issue a certificate of completion to each
32 pilot trainee who satisfactorily completes the training program.
33 The board shall not issue a pilot's license to any person who does
34 not receive a certificate of completion of the training program from
35 the board, although the board may refuse to issue a pilot license
36 to a pilot trainee who has received this certificate.

37 (h) The training program for pilot trainees and the continuing
38 education program for pilots and inland pilots shall be funded from
39 revenues collected for these purposes as determined by the board

1 pursuant to Sections 1195 and 1196 and deposited into the Board
2 of Pilot Commissioners' Special Fund pursuant to Section 1159.

3 SEC. 5. Section 1176 of the Harbors and Navigation Code is
4 amended to read:

5 1176. (a) The board shall appoint a physician or physicians
6 who are qualified to determine the suitability of a person to perform
7 his or her duties as a pilot, an inland pilot, or a pilot trainee in
8 accordance with subdivision (c).

9 (b) An applicant for a pilot trainee position or for a pilot license,
10 as well as a pilot or an inland pilot seeking renewal of his or her
11 license shall undergo a physical examination by a board appointed
12 physician in accordance with standards prescribed by the board.
13 Within 30 days prior to the examination, the applicant or licensee
14 shall submit to the physician conducting the physical examination
15 a complete list of all prescribed medications being taken by or
16 administered to the applicant or licensee.

17 (c) On the basis of both the examination and an evaluation of
18 the effects of the prescription medications named on the submitted
19 list, the physician shall designate to the board whether or not the
20 pilot, inland pilot, or pilot trainee is fit to perform his or her duties
21 as a pilot, an inland pilot, or a pilot trainee.

22 (d) The license of a pilot or an inland pilot shall not be renewed
23 unless he or she is found fit for duty pursuant to subdivision (c).

24 (e) Whenever a pilot, an inland pilot, or a pilot trainee is
25 prescribed either a new dosage of a medication or a new
26 medication, or suspends the use of a prescribed medication, he or
27 she shall, within 10 days, submit that information to the board
28 appointed physician having possession of the prescribed medication
29 list submitted pursuant to subdivision (b). Whenever the physician
30 receives the updated information, the physician shall determine
31 whether or not the medication change affects the licensee's or
32 trainee's fitness for duty. If the physician determines that the
33 medication change results in the pilot, inland pilot, or pilot trainee
34 being unfit for duty, the physician shall inform the board.

35 (f) The board may terminate a pilot trainee or suspend or revoke
36 the license of a pilot or an inland pilot who fails to submit the
37 prescribed medication information required by this section.

38 SEC. 6. Section 1190 of the Harbors and Navigation Code is
39 amended to read:

1190. (a) Every vessel spoken inward or outward bound shall pay the following rate of bar pilotage through the Golden Gate and into or out of the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun:

(1) Eight dollars and eleven cents (\$8.11) per draft foot of the vessel's deepest draft and fractions of a foot pro rata, and an additional charge of 73.01 mills per high gross registered ton as changed pursuant to law in effect on December 31, 1999. The mill rates established by this paragraph may be changed as follows:

(A) (i) *On and after January 1, 2010, if at any time the number of pilots licensed by the board is 58 or 59 pilots, the mill rate in effect on December 31, 2006, shall be decreased by an incremental amount that is proportionate to one-half of the last audited annual average net income per pilot for each pilot licensed by the board below 60 pilots.*

(ii) *On and after January 1, 2010, if the number of pilots licensed by the board is fewer than 58 pilots, the mill rate at any time in effect on December 31, 2006, shall be adjusted in accordance with the method described in clause (i) as though there are 58 pilots licensed by the board.*

(iii) *The incremental mill rate adjustment authorized by this subparagraph shall be calculated using the data reported to the board for the number of gross registered tons handled by pilots licensed under this division during the same 12-month period as the audited annual average net income per pilot. The incremental mill rate adjustment shall become effective at the beginning of the quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1), as directed by the board.*

(A)

(B) There shall be an incremental rate of additional mills per high gross registered ton as is necessary and authorized by the board to recover the pilots' costs of obtaining new pilot boats and of funding design and engineering modifications for the purposes of extending the service life of existing pilot boats, excluding costs for repair or maintenance. The incremental mill rate charge authorized by this subparagraph shall be identified as a pilot boat surcharge on the pilots' invoices and separately accounted for in the accounting required by Section 1136. Net proceeds from the sale of existing pilot boats shall be used to reduce the debt on the new pilot boats and any debt associated with the modification of

1 pilot boats under this subparagraph. The board may adjust a pilot
2 boat surcharge to reflect any associated operational savings
3 resulting from the modification of pilot boats under this
4 subparagraph, including, but not limited to, reduced repair and
5 maintenance expenses.

6 ~~(B)~~

7 (C) In addition to the incremental rate specified in subparagraph
8 ~~(A)~~ (B), the mill rate established by this subdivision may be
9 adjusted at the direction of the board if, after a hearing conducted
10 pursuant to Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter
11 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, the
12 board determines that there has been a catastrophic cost increase
13 to the pilots that would result in at least a 2-percent increase in the
14 overall annual cost of providing pilot services.

15 (2) A minimum charge for bar pilotage shall be six hundred
16 sixty-two dollars (\$662) for each vessel piloted.

17 (3) The vessel's deepest draft shall be the maximum draft
18 attained, on a stillwater basis, at any part of the vessel during the
19 course of such transit inward or outward.

20 (b) The rate specified in subdivision (a) shall apply only to a
21 pilotage that passes through the Golden Gate to or from the high
22 seas to or from a berth within an area bounded by the Union Pacific
23 Railroad Bridge to the north and Hunter's Point to the south. The
24 rate for pilotage to or from the high seas to or from a point past
25 the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge or Hunter's Point shall include
26 a movement fee in addition to the basic bar pilotage rate as
27 specified by the board pursuant to Section 1191.

28 (c) The rate established in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall
29 be for a trip from the high seas to dock or from the dock to high
30 seas. The rate specified in Section 1191 shall not be charged by
31 pilots for docking and undocking vessels. This subdivision does
32 not apply to the rates charged by inland pilots for their services.

33 (d) The board shall determine the number of pilots to be licensed
34 based on the 1986 manpower study adopted by the board.

35 (e) Consistent with the board's May 2002 adoption of rate
36 recommendations, the rates imposed pursuant to paragraph (1) of
37 subdivision (a) that are in effect on December 31, 2002, shall be
38 increased by 4 percent on January 1, 2003; those in effect on
39 December 31, 2003, shall be increased by 4 percent on January 1,
40 2004; those in effect on December 31, 2004, shall be increased by

1 3 percent on January 1, 2005; and those in effect on December 31,
2 2005, shall be increased by 3 percent on January 1, 2006.

3 (f) (1) There shall be a movement fee as is necessary and
4 authorized by the board to recover a pilot's costs for the purchase,
5 lease, or maintenance of navigation software, hardware, and
6 ancillary equipment purchased after November 5, 2008, and before
7 January 1, 2011.

8 (2) The software, equipment, and technology covered by this
9 subdivision shall be used strictly and exclusively to aid in piloting
10 on the pilotage grounds. The movement fee authorized by this
11 subdivision shall be identified as a navigation technology surcharge
12 on a pilot's invoices and separately accounted for in the accounting
13 required by Section 1136. The board shall review and adjust as
14 necessary the navigation technology surcharge at least quarterly.
15 This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2011.

16 SEC. 7. Section 1196 of the Harbors and Navigation Code is
17 amended to read:

18 1196. (a) In addition to other fees for pilotage, there shall be
19 a surcharge in an amount established by the board for each
20 movement of a vessel using pilot services for the pilot and inland
21 pilot continuing education program established by the board.

22 (b) The moneys charged and collected each month from the
23 pilot and inland pilot continuing education program surcharge shall
24 be paid to the board. The moneys shall be used only to fund the
25 pilot and inland pilot continuing education program in the manner
26 established by the board.

27 (c) By action of the board, the board may adjust the amount
28 established pursuant to subdivision (a) as necessary to efficiently
29 administer the pilot and inland pilot continuing education program.