

Enrolled Senate Bill 459

Sponsored by Senator WEBER, Representative JAVADI; Senator SMITH DB, Representatives MCLAIN, OSBORNE, WRIGHT (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 776.105.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 776.105 is amended to read:

776.105. (1) The Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots is established within the Public Utility Commission of Oregon, and shall consist of nine members appointed by the Governor for terms of four years. The appointments of members of the board are subject to confirmation by the Senate in the manner prescribed in ORS 171.562 and 171.565.

(2) Three members of the board shall be public members, one of whom shall act as chairperson of the board. **Each public member must be a resident of this state.** The public members of the board may not:

(a) During the preceding five years or during their terms of office, have any interest in the ownership, operation or management of any tugs, cargo or passenger vessels or in the carriage of freight or passengers by vessel;

(b) During the preceding five years or during their terms of office, have any interest in any association or organization represented under subsection (4) of this section or principally comprised of persons engaged in commercial pursuits in the maritime industry as described in paragraph (a) of this subsection in any capacity; or

(c) Hold or have held a maritime pilot license issued by any state or federal authority.

(3) Three members shall be licensees under this chapter. One member shall be a Columbia River bar licensee, one member shall be a Columbia River licensee and one member shall be a Coos Bay or Yaquina Bay licensee. **At least one licensee member must be a resident of this state.** A licensee member shall:

(a) Have been licensed for more than three years under this chapter; **and**

(b) Be actively engaged in piloting[; *and*].

[(c) Be a resident of this state.]

(4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, three members of the board shall, for at least three years immediately preceding their appointment, have been and during their terms of office be engaged in the activities of a person, as defined in ORS 174.100, that operates or represents commercial oceangoing vessels.

(5) The Governor may appoint a past or present employee or commissioner of a port to serve on the board in lieu of one of the operators or representatives of a commercial oceangoing vessel under subsection (4) of this section.

(6)(a) The majority of members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business if at least one member of each group, as described in subsections (2), (3) and (4) of this section, is present.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, when the board fixes pilotage fees under ORS 776.115 (5) a quorum shall consist of seven members.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, for purposes of ORS 192.610 to 192.705 a quorum shall consist of five members.

(7) The commission may appoint a member of the commission, or a designee, as a nonvoting, ex officio member of the board.

(8)(a) The commission is responsible for the administrative oversight of the board. The responsibilities of the commission include, but are not limited to:

(A) Budgeting;

(B) Financial management;

(C) Record keeping;

(D) Staffing;

(E) Purchasing and contracting;

(F) Collecting fees; and

(G) Compliance with rulemaking procedures set forth in ORS chapter 183.

(b) In consultation with the board, the commission shall:

(A) Fix the qualifications of and appoint an executive director and an administrative officer for the board; and

(B) Subject to the State Personnel Relations Law, fix the compensation of the executive director and the administrative officer.

SECTION 2. (1) The amendments to ORS 776.105 by section 1 of this 2025 Act apply to members of the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots who are appointed or reappointed after the effective date of this 2025 Act.

(2) Notwithstanding the amendments to ORS 776.105 by section 1 of this 2025 Act, the members of the board on the effective date of this 2025 Act may serve on the board until the expiration of their terms.

Passed by Senate March 25, 2025

Received by Governor:

Repassed by Senate June 3, 2025

.....M.,....., 2025

Approved:

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Obadiah Rutledge, Secretary of Senate

.....M.,....., 2025

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

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Tina Kotek, Governor

Passed by House May 29, 2025

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2025

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

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Tobias Read, Secretary of State