

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Hanna
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Verger

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 18 – 1 – 2

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Hanna, Nathanson, Nolan
– Nays: Morgan
– Exc: Jenson, Shields

Senate – Yeas: Bates, Carter, Devlin, Gordly, Johnson, Morse, Nelson, Schrader, Verger, Westlund, Whitsett, Winters
– Nays:
– Exc:

Prepared By: Susie Jordan, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 5/16/07

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases the maximum annual maritime pilot license fee from \$1,500 to \$2,500. Authorizes the Board of Maritime Pilots to adjust license fee based on the Portland-Salem, OR-WA; Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for All Items. The measure declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for the increase in fees
- Agency's declining revenues and increasing expenses
- Primary responsibilities of the Board of Maritime Pilots

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No Amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Board of Maritime Pilots is part of the Oregon Department of Transportation. The board regulates 63 bar and river pilots. The board helps protect public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that only competent and qualified individuals are allowed to pilot large vessels into Oregon ports and along rivers. The board establishes license requirements for pilots, qualifies applicants, selects pilot trainees and apprentices, provides for license examination, issues new or renewal licenses and investigates incidents that occur while a vessel is under the guidance of a state licensed pilot. The board is funded solely by annual license fees paid by the pilots. The Board of Maritime Pilots' last license fee increase was approved by the 1991 Legislature. HB 2277 increases the maximum annual maritime pilot license fee from \$1,500 to \$2,500. The measure further authorizes the Board of Maritime Pilots to adjust license fees each biennium from the \$1,500 baseline, up to the \$2,500 maximum, based on the Portland-Salem Consumer Price Index.