
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MOORING LINES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaiian
2 archipelago is the most remote island chain in the world, where
3 ninety-eight per cent of all goods are processed by the harbor
4 system. Tugs are vital to Hawaii's shipping industry, as tugs
5 bring in tens of thousands of goods to the State each day. To
6 properly secure shipping vessels to wharves, mooring lines are
7 thrown over the bollard, which are then secured by certified
8 longshore linespersons to safely secure the bulkhead.

9 The legislature also finds that, presently, it is not
10 required for any out-of-state company to utilize trained local
11 longshore linespersons to secure their operational vessel to the
12 State's commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays, bulkheads, and
13 landings belonging to or controlled by the State, leading to
14 lower contributions to Hawaii's tax base. Moreover, this
15 practice decreases the number of Hawaii-based jobs for
16 residents. In 2022, the State lost \$1.5 million in all related
17 taxes by barges that did not utilize Hawaii-based labor.



1 The legislature further finds that all stevedoring
2 companies operating within the state harbor system are required
3 to be certified and recertified to follow all health and safety
4 guidelines. Stevedoring companies are crucial to the State's
5 harbors infrastructure, as companies received proper training on
6 identification, notification, and containment of invasive
7 species, hazardous materials, and other potential health and
8 safety threats to Hawaii's fragile ecosystem. Furthermore,
9 stevedoring companies are well-versed in the uniqueness of each
10 state harbor's challenges pertaining to the loading and landing
11 of merchandise.

12 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to require
13 commodities and manifested cargo requiring tug assistance to be
14 manned by an existing, operational stevedoring company that is
15 currently operating in the State.

16 SECTION 2. Section 266-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) The department of transportation shall:

- 19 (1) Have and exercise all the powers and shall perform all
20 the duties [~~which~~] that may lawfully be exercised by
21 or under the State relative to the control and



1 management of commercial harbors, commercial harbor
2 and waterfront improvements, ports, docks, wharves,
3 piers, quays, bulkheads, and landings belonging to or
4 controlled by the State, and the shipping using the
5 same;

6 (2) Have the authority to use and permit and regulate the
7 use of the commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays,
8 bulkheads, [~~and~~] landings belonging to or controlled
9 by the State for receiving or discharging passengers
10 and for loading and landing merchandise, and
11 commodities and manifested cargo manned by an
12 existing, operational stevedoring company that is
13 operating within the State requiring tug assistance,
14 with a right to collect wharfage and demurrage thereon
15 or therefor;

16 (3) Subject to all applicable provisions of law, have the
17 power to fix and regulate from time to time rates and
18 charges for:

19 (A) Services rendered in mooring commercial vessels;

20 (B) The use of commercial moorings belonging to or
21 controlled by the State;



1 (C) Wharfage or demurrage;

2 (D) Warehouse space, office space, and storage space
3 for freight, goods, wares and merchandise; and

4 (E) The use of derricks or other equipment belonging
5 to the State or under the control of the
6 department;

7 (4) Make other charges, including toll or tonnage charges
8 on freight passing over or across docks, wharves,
9 piers, quays, bulkheads, or landings;

10 (5) Appoint and remove clerks, harbor agents and their
11 assistants, and all such other employees as may be
12 necessary, and to fix their compensation;

13 (6) Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 and not
14 inconsistent with law; and

15 (7) Generally have all powers necessary to fully carry out
16 this chapter.

17 As used in this subsection:

18 "Commodity" means a product of agriculture or mining,
19 article of commerce, article of commerce delivered for shipment,
20 or mass-produced unspecialized product;



H.B. NO. 714

Report Title:

Mooring Lines; Department of Transportation; Harbors Division

Description:

Requires commodities and manifested cargo requiring tug assistance to be manned by an existing, operational stevedoring company that is operating within the State.

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