

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1123

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

May 21, 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 21, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

S.B. NO. 3102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2

RELATING TO PORT PILOTAGE.
ACT 023

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D.".

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PORT PILOTAGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 462A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§462A- Duties of the director of transportation;
5 consultation. The director of transportation, or the director's
6 designee, shall provide information, data, reports, and other
7 consultative input to the department of commerce and consumer
8 affairs, as requested, for the establishment of port pilot
9 licensure standards, requirements, and criteria under this
10 chapter. The consultative input shall include, at a minimum,
11 examinations, the number of pilots necessary to maintain an
12 efficient pilotage service, pilot fees, and other rules to
13 ensure safe pilotage in the State's commercial ports."

14 SECTION 2. Section 462A-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended to read as follows:



1 "**§462A-3 Powers and duties of the director.** In addition
2 to any other powers and duties authorized by law, the director
3 shall:

4 (1) Grant licenses to port pilots and deputy port pilots
5 pursuant to this chapter, when the need arises;

6 (2) [~~Adopt~~] In consultation with the department of
7 transportation, adopt, amend, or repeal rules in
8 accordance with chapter 91 as may be necessary to
9 carry out the purposes of this chapter, which are to
10 provide for maximum efficiency in navigating vessels
11 entering or leaving the waters of [~~this~~] the State;
12 maintain a pilotage system devoted to the
13 preservation[~~r~~] and protection of lives, property, and
14 vessels entering or leaving waters of the State; and
15 ensure an adequate supply of qualified pilots in aid
16 of commerce and navigation;

17 (3) [~~Develop~~] In consultation with the department of
18 transportation, develop appropriate standards for
19 licensure and renewal of licensure to maintain an
20 adequate supply of pilots based on the needs of users
21 of pilotage services [~~or the department of~~ .



1 ~~transportation's harbors division~~]. Licensing
2 requirements shall include examinations and
3 investigations to determine whether persons applying
4 for full port pilot[~~r~~] or deputy port pilot licenses
5 are qualified;

6 (4) Enforce this chapter and rules adopted pursuant
7 thereto;

8 (5) [~~Suspend,~~] In consultation with the department of
9 transportation, suspend, revoke, or deny the issuance
10 of any license for any cause prescribed by this
11 chapter, or for any violation of [the] rules[+]
12 adopted thereto;

13 (6) Investigate any person for violations of [~~any~~
14 ~~provisions of~~] this chapter[+] and rules adopted
15 thereto;

16 (7) Adopt methods to improve disciplinary and enforcement
17 programs against violations of this chapter[+] and
18 rules adopted thereto; and

19 (8) [~~Do~~] In consultation with the department of
20 transportation, do all things reasonable, necessary,
21 and expedient to [insure] ensure proper and safe



1 pilotage and to facilitate the efficient
2 administration of this chapter."

3 SECTION 3. Section 462A-3.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "[+]§462A-3.5[+] **Adequate supply of licenses.** (a) The
6 director, in consultation with the department of transportation,
7 shall determine the number of pilots necessary to maintain an
8 efficient pilotage service in accordance with this chapter.

9 (b) [~~The~~] In making a recommendation to the director, the
10 department of transportation, in consultation with users of
11 pilotage services[~~, the department of transportation's harbors~~
12 ~~division,~~] and the professional association of port pilots in
13 the State, shall give primary consideration to the public
14 interest in ensuring that there is an adequate supply of
15 qualified pilots to safely and economically meet the
16 requirements of commerce."

17 SECTION 4. Section 462A-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "**§462A-8 Denial, suspension, or revocation.** In addition
20 to any other actions authorized by law, the director, in
21 consultation with the department of transportation, may deny the



1 issuance of a license to any applicant, and may suspend or
2 revoke the license of any pilot for any cause authorized by law,
3 including but not limited to the following:

- 4 (1) Violation of this chapter or any rule adopted by the
5 director;
- 6 (2) Loss, damage, or injury due to negligent pilotage;
- 7 (3) Habitual use of any substance rendering a pilot unfit
8 to be entrusted with the charge of a vessel;
- 9 (4) Inability to physically or mentally perform the duties
10 of a pilot;
- 11 (5) Failure to maintain active service as a pilot in the
12 State;
- 13 (6) Procurement of a license through fraudulent
14 misrepresentation or deceit;
- 15 (7) Participation in any unfair or deceptive act or
16 practice as prohibited by section 480-2;
- 17 (8) Violation of any law or rule intended to promote
18 marine safety or protect navigational waters;
- 19 (9) Failure to report marine accidents in accordance with
20 the [~~rules~~] requirements of this chapter; or



1 (10) Failure to maintain a current and valid federal pilots
2 license issued in accordance with title 46[7] United
3 States Code[7] chapter 71."

4 SECTION 5. Section 462A-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "**S462A-11 Rates of pilotage.** [~~The~~] Notwithstanding any
7 law to the contrary, the director, in consultation with the
8 department of transportation, shall establish the rates of
9 pilotage for vessels subject to this chapter as follows:

10 (1) The rates of pilotage in effect on July 1, 1978, shall
11 remain in effect until changed by the director
12 pursuant to this chapter[7];

13 (2) No rate shall be increased, lowered, or altered
14 without a public hearing in accordance with chapter
15 91[~~.—Due~~] and due notice of a hearing shall be mailed
16 at least thirty days [~~prior to~~] before the date of the
17 hearing to the individual licensed pilots, the pilot's
18 association, and all owners, charterers, operators,
19 and agents of vessels who have registered with the
20 department[7];



1 (3) The director, in setting rates of pilotage, shall fix
 2 [~~such~~] amounts as will be a fair charge for the
 3 services rendered with due regard to necessary
 4 operating expenses, maintenance of, depreciation on,
 5 and return on investment for property used in the
 6 business of pilotage, and the rates and charges of
 7 pilotage at comparable ports of the United States~~[-]~~;
 8 and

9 (4) Persons aggrieved by the director's decision setting
 10 the rates of pilotage may appeal to circuit court as
 11 provided in chapter 91."

12 SECTION 6. Section 462A-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 13 amended to read as follows:

14 "**\$462A-17 Description of pilotage waters.** Pilotage waters
 15 as established under this chapter shall be the waters of the
 16 State described as follows:

17 [~~(1) Port Allen: All waters inside a line drawn from Puolu
 18 Point to Weli Point.~~

19 ~~(2)]~~ (1) Nawiliwili: All waters inside a line drawn from
 20 Ninini Point to Kawaii Point~~[-]~~;



- 1 [~~(3)~~] (2) Honolulu: All waters inside a line drawn from
2 Diamond Head Light, 278° true, to the intersection of
3 a line drawn from the seaward edge of the reef runway
4 at Latitude 21°-18.2' North and Longitude 157°-55.6'
5 West, 180° true[~~-~~];
- 6 [~~(4)~~] (3) Kahului: All waters inside a line drawn from
7 Waiehu Point to Waihee Reef Lighted Buoy 2 in Latitude
8 20°55.9' North and Longitude 156°28.5' West and thence
9 to Papaula Point[~~-~~];
- 10 [~~(5)~~] (4) Hilo: All waters inside a line drawn from the
11 outer extremity of the Hilo Bay breakwater to Paukaa
12 Point Light[~~-~~];
- 13 [~~(6)~~] (5) Kawaihae: All waters inside a line drawn from
14 the outer extremity of the Kawaihae Harbor breakwater
15 due West to Longitude 155°51' West, thence due North
16 to Latitude 20°03' North and thence due East to where
17 it intersects with the shoreline[~~-~~]; and
- 18 [~~(7)~~] (6) Barbers Point: All waters inside a line drawn
19 from the northernmost refinery tower, 250° true, to
20 the intersection of a line drawn tangentially to Maile
21 Point, 165° true."



1 SECTION 7. Section 462A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**\$462A-18 Vessels required to take a pilot.** Every vessel,
4 other than an exempt vessel, entering or departing from any port
5 in or traversing the waters of the State designated as pilotage
6 waters shall employ a pilot licensed under this chapter;
7 provided that a vessel declared by the director of
8 transportation to be in immediate danger of destruction or
9 [~~which~~] that poses an immediate hazard to public safety by its
10 presence in the harbor may be moved without a pilot when a pilot
11 is not immediately available."

12 SECTION 8. Section 462A-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "**\$462A-19 Exempt vessels.** This chapter [~~does~~] shall not
15 apply to:

16 (1) Any vessel required by the laws of the United States
17 [~~of America~~] to be under the direction and control of
18 a federally licensed pilot;

19 (2) Public vessels of the United States [~~of America~~];



1 (3) Fishing vessels that have been issued a fishery
2 license or appropriately endorsed registry under the
3 laws of the United States [~~of America~~];

4 (4) Tugs or towboats of 1,600 gross tons or less [~~which~~
5 that are registered in the United States if the
6 master, mate, or operator is licensed in the United
7 States and has made a minimum of six round trips into
8 and out of the pilotage water [~~which~~] that the vessel
9 is traversing; or

10 (5) Vessels under 300 gross tons.

11 This section provides minimum pilotage requirements, and
12 [~~is not intended~~] shall not be construed to negate the
13 department of transportation's responsibility for the safety of
14 all ports and shore waters in the State, nor [~~does~~] shall it be
15 construed to limit the [~~department's~~] department of
16 transportation's right to require additional pilotage should
17 [~~that~~] the department of transportation determine it is
18 necessary to ensure safety in the ports or shore waters of the
19 State."

20 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.




1 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



S.B. NO. 3102
S.D. 2
H.D. 2

APPROVED this 21st day of May, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

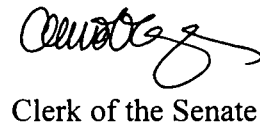
THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: April 22, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2026.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate

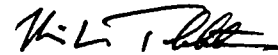
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 8, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Third Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives