Transportation Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5461 / Bill Status / Public Hearing Testimony
Title: AN ACT IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE CONNECTICUT PORT AUTHORITY TO ELIMINATE THE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MARINE PILOT LICENSE.
Vote Date: 3/16/2026
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/9/2026
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Transportation Committee
Connecticut Port Authority

REASONS FOR BILL:

The elimination of fees associated with the Marine Pilot License will streamline the Connecticut Port Authority's licensing process without sacrificing safety. This bill also comes as a result from the Governor's executive order to improve licensing and permitting processes.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Michael Connor, Executive Director, Connecticut Port Authority
As enacted the statutes requires the Connecticut Port Authority to collect a fee of $105.48 during initial licensing and each year during license renewal from each of the seven pilots currently supporting ship operations in Long Island Sound. Eliminating this fee reduces transactions, eliminates administrative actions, and streamlines the licensing process with no reduction in safety and no financial burden. The Connecticut Pilot Commission and the Connecticut Port Authority support improving this process by eliminating the collection of this fee and urge your support this session. This is also in support of Governor Lamont's recent executive order regarding the improvement of licensing and permitting processes.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Cindy Panioto **Date: 3/24/26**