

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 164(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/30/07

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to reporting of vessel location by certain commercial passenger vessels
2 operating in the marine waters of the state, to access to vessels by a wastewater
3 treatment operator for purposes of monitoring compliance with state and federal marine
4 discharge and pollution requirements, to the obligations of that operator while aboard
5 the vessels, and to the qualifications of the wastewater treatment operator; and
6 providing for an effective date."

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

8 * **Section 1.** AS 46.03.465(b) is amended to read:

9 (b) While a commercial passenger vessel is present in the marine waters of the
10 state, the owner or operator of the vessel shall provide to the United States Coast
11 **Guard** an hourly report of the vessel's location based on Global Positioning System
12 technology and collect routine samples of the vessel's treated sewage, graywater, and
13 other wastewaters being discharged into marine waters of the state with a sampling

1 technique approved by the department.

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 46.03.476 is repealed and reenacted to read:

3 **Sec. 46.03.476. Ocean Rangers.** (a) The commissioner shall require the owner
4 or operator of a large commercial passenger vessel to allow a wastewater treatment
5 operator hired or retained by the department on board the vessel at random times
6 determined by the commissioner to perform the duties described in (b) of this section
7 while the vessel is in port in Alaska or operating in Alaska waters between two Alaska
8 ports.

9 (b) While on board a large commercial passenger vessel, the wastewater
10 treatment operator shall

11 (1) act as an independent observer for the purpose of monitoring
12 compliance with state and federal requirements pertaining to marine discharge and
13 pollution requirements;

14 (2) monitor, observe, and record data and information related to marine
15 discharge and pollution requirements in state and federal law, including registration,
16 reporting, and record-keeping requirements.

17 (c) While on board the vessel the wastewater treatment operator shall comply
18 with the vessel's approved United States Coast Guard security plan.

19 (d) Any information recorded or gathered by the wastewater treatment
20 operator shall be promptly conveyed to the department and the United States Coast
21 Guard on a form or in a manner approved by the commissioner. The commissioner
22 may share information gathered with other state and federal agencies.

23 (e) In this section, "wastewater treatment operator" means a Level III
24 wastewater treatment operator certified by the department under the authority of
25 AS 46.30.080.

26 * **Sec. 3.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
27 read:

28 **RETROACTIVITY.** Sections 1 and 2 of this Act are retroactive to December 17,
29 2006.

30 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).