



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2009

**Source**  
HCS SB 183(FIN)

**Chapter No.**  
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## AN ACT

Amending the qualifications of ocean rangers who monitor marine discharge and pollution requirements aboard large commercial passenger vessels; authorizing the Department of Environmental Conservation to award grants for the control of air emissions or the development and administration of air quality control programs; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



**AN ACT**

1 Amending the qualifications of ocean rangers who monitor marine discharge and pollution  
2 requirements aboard large commercial passenger vessels; authorizing the Department of  
3 Environmental Conservation to award grants for the control of air emissions or the  
4 development and administration of air quality control programs; and providing for an  
5 effective date.

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7 \* **Section 1.** AS 46.03.476 is amended to read:

8           **Sec. 46.03.476. Ocean Rangers.** (a) An owner or operator of a large  
9 commercial passenger vessel entering the marine waters of the state is required to have  
10 **an ocean ranger** [A MARINE ENGINEER LICENSED BY THE UNITED STATES  
11 COAST GUARD] hired or retained by the department on board the vessel to act as an  
12 independent observer for the purpose of monitoring state and federal requirements  
13 pertaining to marine discharge and pollution requirements and to insure that

1 passengers, crew, and residents at ports are protected from improper sanitation, health,  
2 and safety practices.

3 (b) The ocean ranger [LICENSED MARINE ENGINEER] shall monitor,  
4 observe, and record data and information related to the engineering, sanitation, and  
5 health related operations of the vessel, including but not limited to registration,  
6 reporting, record-keeping, and discharge functions required by state and federal law.

7 (c) Any information recorded or gathered by the ocean ranger [LICENSED  
8 MARINE ENGINEER] shall be promptly conveyed to the Alaska Department of  
9 Environmental Conservation and the United States Coast Guard on a form or in a  
10 manner approved by the commissioner of environmental conservation. The  
11 commissioner may share information gathered with other state and federal agencies.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 46.03.476 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (d) In this section, "ocean ranger" means

14 (1) a marine engineer licensed by the United States Coast Guard; or

15 (2) a person who holds a degree in marine safety and environmental  
16 protection, or an equivalent course of study approved by the department, from an  
17 accredited maritime educational institution.

18 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 46.14 is amended by adding a new section to read:

19 **Sec. 46.14.535. Grants.** (a) Subject to appropriation, the department may  
20 award grants of federal or other funds received by the department for the control of air  
21 emissions or the development or administration of air quality control programs in the  
22 state.

23 (b) The department may adopt regulations under AS 44.62 (Administrative  
24 Procedure Act) to carry out the purposes of this section.

25 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 46.14.535 is repealed January 1, 2011.

26 \* **Sec. 5.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).