

2025 -- S 0980

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, and Sosnowski

Date Introduced: April 16, 2025

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-2-35 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-2 entitled "General  
2 Powers" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-2-35. Town of New Shoreham — Landing fee.**

4 The town of New Shoreham is hereby authorized to charge, assess, or otherwise collect a  
5 ~~fifty-cent (\$.50)~~ one dollar and seventy-five cent (\$1.75) landing fee on each passenger over the  
6 age of twelve (12) arriving on Block Island by public or private boat. All fees collected less  
7 expenses of collection shall be utilized by the town of New Shoreham to promote the health, safety,  
8 and welfare of all passengers, including, but not limited to, emergency medical services, acquisition  
9 of property to support tourism related activities, to construct and maintain tourism support facilities,  
10 and to establish a fund to assist the town of New Shoreham in resolving problems which may arise  
11 due to growth in the tourism industry. The town may enter into agreements with any common  
12 carrier serving the town of New Shoreham and any operator of a marina in the town of New  
13 Shoreham authorizing the carrier or marina operator to collect the landing fee on behalf of the town  
14 of New Shoreham. The agreement may provide for the payment of a fee by the town for the carrier  
15 or marina operator and the indemnification of the carrier or marina operator from and against any  
16 liability to, or claim of liability by third parties, arising from collection of the landing fee. Any  
17 common carrier may collect the landing fee on behalf of the town of New Shoreham by including  
18 the amount of the fee in its rate and charge to passengers without the necessity of approval of the  
19 landing fee from the public utilities commission or the division of public utilities and carriers under

1 title 39. The landing fee authorized by this chapter does not apply to any persons receiving free  
2 transportation from a public utility under § 39-2-5. The town council of the town of New Shoreham  
3 shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

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- 1           This act would increase the landing fee for the town of New Shoreham from fifty cents
- 2           (\$1.75) to one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75).
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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