

2025 -- S 0980 SUBSTITUTE A

LC002721/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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 (\$1.00) landing fee on each passenger over the age of twelve (12)
6 arriving on Block Island by public or private boat. All fees collected less expenses of collection
7 shall be utilized by the town of New Shoreham to promote the health, safety, and welfare of all
8 passengers, including, but not limited to, emergency medical services, acquisition of property to
9 support tourism related activities, to construct and maintain tourism support facilities, and to
10 establish a fund to assist the town of New Shoreham in resolving problems which may arise due to
11 growth in the tourism industry. The town may enter into agreements with any common carrier
12 serving the town of New Shoreham and any operator of a marina in the town of New Shoreham
13 authorizing the carrier or marina operator to collect the landing fee on behalf of the town of New
14 Shoreham. The agreement may provide for the payment of a fee by the town for the carrier or
15 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
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- 1 This act would increase the landing fee for the town of New Shoreham from fifty cents
- 2 (\$.50) to one dollar (\$1.00).
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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