An Act To Address Training Requirements for Harbor Masters

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1-A, as amended by PL 2017, c. 54, §1, is further amended to read:

§1-A.  Training

The following provisions govern the training of harbor masters and deputy harbor masters appointed pursuant to section 1 or 2.

1. Basic training course. A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master or a deputy harbor master after August 31, 2006 must complete a basic harbor master training course offered by a statewide harbor masters association that represents Maine harbor masters within one year after being appointed or reappointed unless that person has previously completed such a course. If a person has not held the position of harbor master or deputy harbor master within the last 5 years prior to being appointed or reappointed, that person upon appointment or reappointment must complete the basic harbor master training course.

1-A. Continuing education. A person appointed or reappointed a harbor master or deputy harbor master who has completed the basic training course under subsection 1 shall complete, at a minimum, 8 hours of training every 3 years to maintain certification as a harbor master or deputy harbor master. The training requirement of this subsection may be met by completing continuing education training offered or approved by a statewide harbor masters association that represents Maine harbor masters.

2. Reimbursement Payment; reimbursement. Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a municipality, at its sole discretion, from paying for or reimbursing a harbor master or deputy harbor master for the cost of training under this section.

3. Additional training. Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a municipality from requiring a harbor master or deputy harbor master to obtain training beyond that required by this section.
4. **Training format.** During any 3-year period, the training courses offered by the statewide harbor masters association must include, at a minimum, in-person, remote and online options.