



Merchant Shipping Act 1894

1894 CHAPTER 60

PART X

PILOTAGE.

Pilot Boats and Pilot Signals.

611 Approval of pilot boats.

All boats and ships regularly employed in the pilotage service of any district (in this Part of this Act referred to as pilot boats) shall be approved and licensed by the pilotage authority of the district, and that authority may, at their discretion, appoint and remove the masters of those pilot boats,

612 Characteristics of pilot boats.

- (1) Every pilot boat shall be distinguished by the following characteristics ; namely,—
 - (a) On her stern the name of her owner and the port to which she belongs, painted in white letters at least one inch broad and three inches long, and on each bow the number of her licence.
 - (b) In all other parts a black colour painted or tarred outside, or such other colour or colours as the pilotage authority of the district, with the consent of the Board of Trade, direct.
 - (c) When afloat a flag (in this Act called a pilot flag) of large dimensions compared with the size of the pilot boat, and of two colours, the upper horizontal half white, and the lower horizontal half red, to be placed at the mast head, or on a sprit or staff, or in some equally conspicuous situation.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the master of the pilot boat to see that the pilot boat possesses all the above characteristics, and that the pilot flag is kept clean and distinct, so as to be easily discerned at a reasonable distance; and also that the names and numbers aforesaid are not at any time concealed; and if a master fails without reasonable cause

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to comply with the requirements of this section, he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds.

613 Display of pilot flag, when pilot is on board vessel.

- (1) When a qualified pilot is carried off in a vessel not in the pilotage service, he shall exhibit a pilot flag in order to show that the vessel has a qualified pilot on board; and if he fails, without reasonable cause, to do so, he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.
- (2) Where the master or mate of a ship holds a pilotage certificate, a pilot flag shall be displayed on board the ship while that master or mate is on board and the ship is within a pilotage district in which pilotage is compulsory, and if default is made in complying with the enactment, the master of the ship shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds.

614 Penalty on ordinary boat displaying pilot flag.

A pilot flag or a flag so nearly resembling a pilot flag as to be likely to deceive shall not be displayed on any ship or boat not having a licensed pilot or a master or mate holding a pilotage certificate on board, and if on any such ship or boat any such flag is displayed, the owner or master of that vessel shall, unless in the case of the display of a flag likely to deceive he proves that he had no intention to deceive, be liable for each offence to a fine not exceeding fifty pounds.

615 Signals to be displayed by ships requiring a pilot.

- (1) Her Majesty may by Order in Council make rules as to the signals to be used or displayed where the services of a pilot are required on any vessel, and those signals are in this Act referred to as pilot signals.
- (2) If a vessel requires the services of a pilot, the master -of that vessel shall use or display the pilot signals.
- (3) If a master of a vessel uses or displays, or causes or permits any person under his authority to use or display, any of the pilot signals for any other purpose than that of summoning a pilot, or uses or causes or permits any person under his authority to use any other signal for a pilot, he shall for each offence be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty pounds.