

Enrolled House Bill 2207

Sponsored by Representative MCKEOWN, Senator ROBLAN; Representatives BOONE, GOMBERG, KRIEGER, LIVELY, WITT, Senator JOHNSON (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to ballast water; amending ORS 783.625, 783.630 and 783.635.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 783.625 is amended to read:

783.625. As used in ORS 783.625 to 783.640, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Ballast water" means any water used to manipulate the trim and stability of a vessel.
- (2) "Cargo vessel" means a ship in commerce that is equipped with ballast tanks, other than a tank vessel or a vessel used solely for commercial fish harvesting, of 300 gross tons or more.
- (3) "Coastal exchange" means exchanging the ballast water taken onboard at a North American coastal port at a distance of at least 50 nautical miles from land and at a depth of at least 200 meters.
- (4) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Quality.
- (5) **"Empty ballast tank" means a ballast tank of a vessel that has been discharged of ballast water from a voyage and, as a result, is expected to have only unpumpable residual ballast water and sediment remaining in the ballast tank.**
- [(5)] (6) "Oil" means oil, gasoline, crude oil, fuel oil, diesel oil, lubricating oil, oil sludge, oil refuse and any other petroleum related product.
- [(6)] (7) "Open sea exchange" means a replacement of ballast water that occurs in an area no less than 200 nautical miles from any shore.
- [(7)] (8) "Passenger vessel" means a ship of 300 gross tons or more carrying passengers for compensation.
- [(8)] (9) "Sediment" means any matter that settles out of ballast water.
- [(9)] (10) "Ship" means any boat, ship, vessel, barge or other floating craft of any kind.
- [(10)] (11) "Tank vessel" means a ship that is constructed or adapted to carry oil in bulk as cargo or cargo residue other than:
 - (a) A vessel carrying oil in drums, barrels or other packages;
 - (b) A vessel carrying oil as fuel or stores for that vessel; or
 - (c) An oil spill response barge or vessel.
- [(11)] (12) "Trip" means travel to an appointed destination and return travel to the point of origin within the waters of this state.
- [(12)] (13) "Vessel" means a tank vessel, cargo vessel or passenger vessel.
- [(13)] (14) "Voyage" means any transit by a vessel destined for any Oregon port.
- [(14)] (15) "Waters of this state" means natural waterways including all tidal and nontidal bays, intermittent streams, constantly flowing streams, lakes, wetlands and other bodies of water in this

state, navigable and nonnavigable, including that portion of the Pacific Ocean that is in the boundaries of Oregon.

SECTION 2. ORS 783.630 is amended to read:

783.630. (1) ORS 783.625 to 783.640 apply to all vessels carrying ballast water **from a voyage** into the waters of this state [*from a voyage*], except a vessel that:

(a) Discharges ballast water only at the location where the ballast water originated, if the ballast water is not mixed with ballast water from areas other than open sea waters;

(b) Does not discharge ballast water in waters of this state;

(c) Traverses only the internal waters of this state;

(d) Traverses only the territorial sea of the United States and does not enter or depart an Oregon port or navigate the waters of this state;

(e) Discharges ballast water that originated solely from waters located between the parallel 40 degrees north latitude and the parallel 50 degrees north latitude on the west coast of North America; or

(f) Discharges ballast water that has been treated to remove organisms in a manner [*that is approved by the United States Coast Guard*] **pursuant to rules adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission under ORS 783.635.**

(2) ORS 783.625 to 783.640 do not authorize the discharge of oil or noxious liquid substances in a manner prohibited by state, federal or international laws or regulations. Ballast water containing oil or noxious liquid substances shall be discharged in accordance with the requirements applicable to those substances.

(3) Nothing in this section:

(a) Requires an open sea or coastal exchange if the owner or operator in charge of a vessel determines that performing an open sea or coastal exchange would threaten the safety or stability of the vessel or the safety of the vessel's crew or passengers because of any extraordinary condition, including but not limited to adverse weather, vessel design limitations or equipment failure.

(b) Exempts the owner or operator in charge of a vessel from the reporting requirements under ORS 783.640, whether or not ballast water is carried or discharged in the waters of this state.

SECTION 3. ORS 783.635 is amended to read:

783.635. (1) Except as authorized by this section, the discharge of ballast water in the waters of this state is prohibited.

(2) An owner or operator of a vessel may discharge ballast water in the waters of this state:

(a) If the owner or operator has conducted a complete open sea or coastal exchange of ballast water prior to entering the waters of this state. The open sea or coastal exchange must be performed using either of the following methods:

(A) Flow-through exchange. A flow-through exchange occurs when an amount of ocean water equal to or exceeding three times the capacity of the vessel's ballast [*water*] tank is pumped into an opening in the ballast [*water*] tank while the existing ballast water is discharged through another opening.

(B) An empty and refill exchange. An empty and refill exchange occurs when a ballast [*water*] tank is pumped empty to the point that the pump loses suction and then is refilled with ocean water.

(b) Without performing an open sea exchange or a coastal exchange of ballast water if:

(A)(i) The owner or operator reasonably believes that an exchange would threaten the safety of the vessel; or

(ii) The exchange is not feasible due to vessel design limitations or equipment failure; and

(B) The vessel discharges only the amount of ballast water that is operationally necessary.

(c) If the ballast water is discharged in a manner consistent with standards and procedures adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission under subsection (4) of this section.

(3) An owner or operator who discharges ballast water in the waters of this state under subsection (2)(b) of this section is subject to the reporting requirements under ORS 783.640.

(4)(a) The Environmental Quality Commission may adopt by rule standards and procedures that the commission considers necessary to carry out the provisions of ORS 783.625 to 783.640. The

standards and procedures must minimize the risk of introducing aquatic invasive species into the waters of this state and must be based on the availability of treatment technology. Rules adopted under this subsection include, but are not limited to:

(A) Standards for the discharge of ballast water into the waters of this state and appropriate timelines for the implementation of the standards. In adopting the standards, the commission shall consider the extent to which treatment technology is feasible, practicable and commercially available, or expected to be available, by the proposed implementation timelines.

(B) Emergency response procedures for managing high-risk ballast water. The rules must define high-risk ballast water in light of the source of the water and other applicable factors. The procedures must establish notification and consultation requirements, as well as feasible alternative ballast water management strategies.

(C) Procedures for implementing alternative ballast water management strategies for the exemptions specified in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(D) Procedures for implementing alternative ballast water management strategies for vessels with empty ballast tanks that enter the waters of this state.

(b) To the extent practicable, the commission shall adopt rules under this subsection consistent with relevant rules adopted by the States of California and Washington.

Passed by House June 22, 2015

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 29, 2015

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2015

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2015

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2015

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Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State