

February 11, 2026

Washington State Board of Pilotage Commissioners
2901 Third Ave., Ste 500
Seattle, WA 98121

Re: Request for Information Regarding Significant Decrease in Assignments in 2025

Dear Chair Tonn and Commissioners,

On behalf of the members of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), and in response to the request made by the BPC at its January meeting, we are providing the latest data on the significant decreases in pilotage assignments experienced in 2025.

Calculations with Updated Best Data Available:

- CY 2024 assignments of 7,587
- Trailing 12-month period (Aug 23-July 24) at the time of the prior -065 hearing was 7,625 assignments
- CY 2025 there were only 7,036 assignments (PSP Activity Reports)
- January of 2026 vessel arrivals decreased 13.3% from January 2025 (ERTV data)
- Current trailing 12-month period (Feb 25-Jan26) is 6,966 assignments (PSP Reports)
- **Reality = Decrease of 659 assignments since the 065 hearing**

Impact on Number of Pilots - using staff calculations:

- Trailing 12 months: $(6,966 * 0.95)/123 = 54$ pilots + 1 for president = 55 total pilots
- **Full consistency with the BPC August 2024 decision would require reducing the number of licensed pilots from 60 to 55**

The number of assignments will be affected by container, cruise and LNG refueling announcements. Unfortunately, on an annualized basis the total of these announcements represents a further net reduction in total assignments. In addition, many are predicting a year over year import cargo decline during the first half of 2026. We are hopeful that won't be the case but either way, the trend of fewer container ship calls has been a strong one since the peak at nearly 1,400 calls is now down to 752 calls in 2025.

Sincerely,



Captain Mike Moore
Vice President