

**WAC 363-116-405 Relieving pilots for cause.** A pilot serving on a vessel required by chapter 88.16 RCW to employ a state licensed pilot may be relieved from his/her piloting duties by the ship's master only for cause as provided in this section. The master may relieve a pilot only if the pilot is manifestly incompetent or incapacitated or if the vessel is endangered or *in extremis* due to the pilot's error. If a pilot is relieved for cause under this section another pilot shall be requested and dispatched. In such event, the master shall immediately put the ship to anchor, to the extent it can be done safely, and await the substitute pilot. If anchoring is not possible or prudent, the master shall slow the vessel to the slowest prudent speed until another pilot can be put on board. To the extent possible and practical, after being relieved of his/her duties, the pilot shall remain available to advise and assist the master. In the event a pilot is relieved as provided in this section in the Puget Sound pilotage district, the United States Coast Guard vessel traffic system shall be notified immediately. In the event a pilot is relieved as provided in this section in any pilotage district, the vessel and the pilot promptly shall provide notice to the board of the event and relevant circumstances.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 88.16 RCW and 2008 c 128. WSR 08-15-119, § 363-116-405, filed 7/21/08, effective 8/21/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 88.16.035. WSR 03-09-096, § 363-116-405, filed 4/21/03, effective 5/22/03.]