



## ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

### **CHAPTER 7.08**

### **PORT DUES ACT**

**Revised Edition**  
showing the law as at 31 December 2002

This is a revised edition of the law, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, No. 9 of 1986.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws—

#### **PORT DUES ACT**

**Act 5 of 1946** ... in force 1st November 1946  
Amended by: S.R.O. 6/1970  
Amended by: Act 7 of 1976  
Amended by: S.R.O. 64/1976  
Amended by: Act 9 of 1986  
Amended by: S.R.O. 36/1982

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**CHAPTER 7.08**  
**PORT DUES ACT**

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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**CHAPTER 7.08**  
**PORT DUES ACT**

AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE IMPOSITION AND PAYMENT OF PORT DUES;  
AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED OR INCIDENTAL MATTERS.

**Short title.**

1. This Act may be cited as the Port Dues Act.

**Interpretation.**

2. In this Act—

“coastwise” means plying from one part or place within the limits of the State to another part or place within the limits of the state;

“master” includes every person having or taking command or charge of a vessel;

“port” means—

(a) in the Island of St. Christopher—

(i) the Port of Basseterre;

(ii) the Port of Sandy Point;

(b) in the Island of Nevis,

the Port of Charlestown;

or any other port which may be declared by Order of the Minister of Finance to be a port for the purposes of this Act;

“tons” means the gross tonnage shown on the vessel’s register or, in the case of vessels not registered, the tonnage as shown on such vessel’s licence or on her clearance from last port of call;

“vessel” includes every description of ship, steamship, vessel, boat or canoe, motor boat or other craft, whether decked or not.

*(Amended by Act 6 of 1976)*

**Port Dues.**

3. (1) Port dues at the respective rates specified in the Schedule shall be paid in respect of all vessels of 20 tons and upwards entering inwards into the State:

Provided that the Minister may, by Order, add to, increase, reduce, abolish or otherwise alter any or all the various dues set out in the Schedule.

(2) Such dues shall be payable to the Comptroller of Customs by the respective masters of such vessels immediately upon their coming to an entry.

(3) The Comptroller of Customs shall have a lien, which he or she may enforce by seizure and sale, upon every such vessel for the payment of all port dues payable in respect of such vessel, and upon the proceeds of the sale of any such vessel for the payment of the expenses of and incidental to the seizure and sale thereof.

(4) The master or owner of such vessel may contest the seizure of the vessel by written notice to the Comptroller of Customs within three days of the seizure and, upon receipt of such written notice, the Comptroller of Customs shall within seven days cause a complaint to be lodged before a Magistrate against the person contesting the seizure, alleging that port dues were in fact due in respect of such vessel.

(5) The Magistrate shall hear and determine the matter in the manner prescribed for the summary trial of offences and, if the case be proven, he or she may confirm the seizure and order the vessel to be sold or may, in *lieu* thereof, order that the port dues be paid and the master or owner of such vessel pay a fine not exceeding one thousand five hundred dollars.

*(Amended by Acts 7 of 1976 and 9 of 1986)*

#### **Exemptions.**

4. This Act shall not apply—

- (a) to Her Majesty's ships of war or to those of any foreign government;  
or
- (b) to any vessel belonging to the Royal Yacht Squadron; or
- (c) to any pleasure yacht which the Comptroller of Customs is satisfied has not entered the State for the purpose of trade or commerce; or
- (d) to any vessel when plying coastwise.

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### **SCHEDULE**

*(Section 3)*

#### **PORT DUES PAYABLE**

- (a) For every vessel of 20 tons but not exceeding 30 tons – \$6.00
- (b) For every vessel of 30 tons but not exceeding 50 tons – \$7.50
- (c) For every vessel of 50 tons but not exceeding 100 tons – \$15.00
- (d) For every vessel of 100 tons but not exceeding 150 tons – \$30.00
- (e) For every vessel of 150 tons but not exceeding 500 tons – \$45.00
- (f) For every vessel of 500 tons but not exceeding 2,000 tons – \$60.00
- (g) For every vessel exceeding 2,000 tons – \$75.00

*(Substituted by S.R.O. 36/1982)*

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