

# HB1917



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB1917

Introduced 2/17/2021, by Rep. Andrew S. Chesney

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 45/5-14

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 315-9

Amends the Boat Registration and Safety Act. Provides that a person may operate a motorboat that has in tow or is otherwise assisting a person on water skis, an aquaplane, or a similar contrivance in or upon any waterway if the motorboat is occupied by at least one competent person and it is equipped with wide-angle mirrors. Effective immediately.

LRB102 11695 RAM 17029 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Boat Registration and Safety Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 5-14 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 45/5-14) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 315-9)

7 Sec. 5-14. Towing of persons.

8 A. No person may operate a motorboat that has in tow or is  
9 otherwise assisting a person on water skis, an aquaplane, or a  
10 similar contrivance in or upon any waterway, unless the  
11 motorboat has a capacity of at least 3 persons, and the  
12 motorboat is (1) occupied by at least 2 competent persons or  
13 (2) occupied by at least one competent person and equipped  
14 with wide-angle mirrors.

15 B. No person may operate a motorboat having in tow or  
16 otherwise be assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or  
17 similar contrivance from the period of one-half hour after  
18 sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. This paragraph B does  
19 not apply to motorboats used in duly authorized water ski  
20 tournaments, competitions, exhibitions or trials therefor  
21 where adequate lighting is provided.

22 C. All persons operating a motorboat having in tow or  
23 otherwise assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or

1 similar contrivance, must be careful and prudent in their  
2 operation and keep at a reasonable distance from persons and  
3 property so as not to endanger the life or property of any  
4 person.

5 D. No person may operate or manipulate any vessel, tow  
6 rope or other device by which the direction or location of  
7 water skis, aquaplane, or similar device may be affected or  
8 controlled in such a way as to cause the water skis, aquaplane,  
9 or similar device, or any persons thereon to collide with or  
10 strike against any person or object, except ski jumps, buoys  
11 and like objects normally used in competitive or recreational  
12 skiing.

13 E. The operator of any watercraft that is towing a person  
14 or persons shall display on the watercraft a bright or  
15 brilliant orange flag measuring not less than 12 inches per  
16 side. The flag shall be displayed at the highest point of the  
17 area surrounding the boat's helm as to be visible from all  
18 directions, continuously, while the person or persons being  
19 towed depart the boat in preparation for towing and until  
20 reentry into the boat when the activity has ceased. Display of  
21 the flag for purposes other than the activity described in  
22 this Section is prohibited.

23 (Source: P.A. 98-697, eff. 1-1-15.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
25 becoming law.