

# SB2731



## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

SB2731

Introduced 1/28/2014, by Sen. Julie A. Morrison

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 45/5-14

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

Amends the Boat Registration and Safety Act. Requires operators of a watercraft towing a person or persons to display red or orange flags on their watercraft.

LRB098 17464 MLW 52568 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. ~~Water Skiing.~~

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 is occupied  
12 by at least 2 competent persons.

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

20 C. All persons operating a motorboat having in tow or  
21 otherwise assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or  
22 similar contrivance, must be careful and prudent in their  
23 operation and keep at a reasonable distance from persons and

1 property so as not to endanger the life or property of any  
2 person.

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

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

20 (Source: P.A. 90-412, eff. 1-1-98.)