



Rep. Robert W. Pritchard

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3126

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 3126 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Boat Registration and Safety Act is amended  
5 by changing Section 5-18 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 45/5-18) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 315-13)

7 Sec. 5-18. (a) Beginning on January 1, 2016, no person born  
8 on or after January 1, 1998, unless exempted by subsection (i),  
9 shall operate a motorboat with over 10 horse power unless that  
10 person has a valid Boating Safety Certificate issued by the  
11 Department of Natural Resources or an entity or organization  
12 recognized and approved by the Department.

13 (b) No person under 10 years of age may operate a  
14 motorboat.

15 (c) Prior to January 1, 2016, persons at least 10 years of  
16 age and less than 12 years of age may operate a motorboat with

1 over 10 horse power only if they are accompanied on the  
2 motorboat and under the direct control of a parent or guardian  
3 or a person at least 18 years of age designated by a parent or  
4 guardian. Beginning on January 1, 2016, persons at least 10  
5 years of age and less than 12 years of age may operate a  
6 motorboat with over 10 horse power only if the person is under  
7 the direct on-board supervision of a parent or guardian who  
8 meets the requirements of subsection (a) or a person at least  
9 18 years of age who meets the requirements of subsection (a)  
10 and is designated by a parent or guardian.

11 (d) Prior to January 1, 2016, persons at least 12 years of  
12 age and less than 18 years of age may operate a motorboat with  
13 over 10 horse power only if they are accompanied on the  
14 motorboat and under the direct control of a parent or guardian  
15 or a person at least 18 years of age designated by a parent or  
16 guardian, or the motorboat operator is in possession of a  
17 Boating Safety Certificate issued by the Department of Natural  
18 Resources, Division of Law Enforcement, authorizing the holder  
19 to operate motorboats. Beginning on January 1, 2016, persons at  
20 least 12 years and less than 18 years of age may operate a  
21 motorboat with over 10 horse power only if the person meets the  
22 requirements of subsection (a) or is under the direct on-board  
23 supervision of a parent or guardian who meets the requirements  
24 of subsection (a) or a person at least 18 years of age who  
25 meets the requirements of subsection (a) and is designated by a  
26 parent or guardian.

1 (e) Beginning January 1, 2016, the owner of a motorboat or  
2 a person given supervisory authority over a motorboat shall not  
3 permit a motorboat with over 10 horse power to be operated by a  
4 person who does not meet the Boating Safety Certificate  
5 requirements of this Section.

6 (f) Licensed boat liveries shall offer abbreviated  
7 operating and safety instruction covering core boat safety  
8 rules to all renters, unless the renter can demonstrate  
9 compliance with the Illinois Boating Safety Certificate  
10 requirements of this Section, or is exempt under subsection (i)  
11 of this Section. A person who completes abbreviated operating  
12 and safety instruction may operate a motorboat rented from the  
13 livery providing the abbreviated operating and safety  
14 instruction without having a Boating Safety Certificate for up  
15 to one year from the date of instruction. The Department shall  
16 adopt rules to implement this subsection.

17 (g) Violations.

18 (1) A person who is operating a motorboat with over 10  
19 horse power and is required to have a valid Boating Safety  
20 Certificate under the provisions of this Section shall  
21 present the certificate to a law enforcement officer upon  
22 request. Failure of the person to present the certificate  
23 upon request is a petty offense.

24 (2) A person who provides false or fictitious  
25 information in an application for a Boating Safety  
26 Certificate; or who alters, forges, counterfeits, or

1 falsifies a Boating Safety Certificate; or who possesses a  
2 Boating Safety Certificate that has been altered, forged,  
3 counterfeited, or falsified is guilty of a Class A  
4 misdemeanor.

5 (3) A person who loans or permits his or her ~~their~~  
6 Boating Safety Certificate to be used by another person, or  
7 who operates a motorboat with over 10 horse power using a  
8 Boating Safety Certificate that has not been issued to that  
9 person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

10 (4) A violation ~~Violations~~ of this Section done with  
11 the knowledge of a parent or guardian shall be deemed a  
12 violation by the parent or guardian and punishable under  
13 Section 11A-1.

14 (h) The Department of Natural Resources shall establish a  
15 program of instruction on boating safety, laws, regulations and  
16 administrative laws, and any other subject matter which might  
17 be related to the subject of general boat safety. The program  
18 shall be conducted by instructors certified by the Department  
19 of Natural Resources. The course of instruction for persons  
20 certified to teach boating safety shall be not less than 8  
21 hours in length, and the Department shall have the authority to  
22 revoke the certification of any instructor who has demonstrated  
23 his inability to conduct courses on the subject matter. The  
24 Department of Natural Resources shall develop and provide a  
25 method for students to complete the program online. Students  
26 satisfactorily completing a program of not less than 8 hours in

1 length shall receive a certificate of safety from the  
2 Department of Natural Resources. The Department may cooperate  
3 with schools, online vendors, private clubs and other  
4 organizations in offering boating safety courses throughout  
5 the State of Illinois.

6 The Department shall issue certificates of boating safety  
7 to persons 10 years of age or older successfully completing the  
8 prescribed course of instruction and passing such tests as may  
9 be prescribed by the Department. The Department may charge each  
10 person who enrolls in a course of instruction a fee not to  
11 exceed \$5. If a fee is authorized by the Department, the  
12 Department shall authorize instructors conducting such courses  
13 meeting standards established by it to charge for the rental of  
14 facilities or for the cost of materials utilized in the course.  
15 Fees retained by the Department shall be utilized to defray a  
16 part of its expenses to operate the safety and accident  
17 reporting programs of the Department.

18 (i) A Boating Safety Certificate is not required by:

19 (1) a person who possesses a valid United States Coast  
20 Guard commercial vessel operator's license or a marine  
21 certificate issued by the Canadian government;

22 (2) a person employed by the United States, this State,  
23 another state, or a subdivision thereof while in  
24 performance of his or her official duties;

25 (3) a person who is not a resident, is temporarily  
26 using the waters of this State for a period not to exceed

1           90 days, and meets any applicable boating safety education  
2 requirements of his or her state of residency or possesses  
3 a Canadian Pleasure Craft Operator's Card;

4           (4) a person who is a resident of this State who has  
5 met the applicable boating safety education requirements  
6 of another state or possesses a Canadian Pleasure Craft  
7 Operator's Card;

8           (5) a person who has assumed operation of the motorboat  
9 due to the illness or physical impairment of the operator,  
10 and is returning the motorboat or personal watercraft to  
11 shore in order to provide assistance or care for that  
12 operator;

13           (6) a person who is registered as a commercial  
14 fisherman or a person who is under the onboard direct  
15 supervision of the commercial fisherman while operating  
16 the commercial fisherman's vessel;

17           (7) a person who is serving or has qualified as a  
18 surface warfare officer or enlisted surface warfare  
19 specialist in the United States Navy;

20           (8) a person who has assumed operation of the motorboat  
21 for the purpose of completing a watercraft safety course  
22 approved by the Department, the U.S. Coast Guard, or the  
23 National Association of State Boating Law Administrators;

24           (9) a person using only an electric motor to propel the  
25 motorboat;

26           (10) a person operating a motorboat on private

1 property; ~~or~~

2 (11) a person over the age of 12 years who holds a  
3 valid certificate issued by another state, a province of  
4 the Dominion of Canada, the United States Coast Guard  
5 Auxiliary or the United States Power Squadron need not  
6 obtain a certificate from the Department if the course  
7 content of the program in such other state, province or  
8 organization substantially meets that established by the  
9 Department under this Section. A certificate issued by the  
10 Department or by another state, province of the Dominion of  
11 Canada or approved organization shall not constitute an  
12 operator's license, but shall certify only that the student  
13 has successfully passed a course in boating safety  
14 instruction; or -

15 (12) a person who is temporarily using the waters of  
16 this State for the purpose of participating in a boat  
17 racing event sanctioned by the Department of Natural  
18 Resources or authorized federal agency. The organizer or  
19 holder of the sanctioned event shall possess liability  
20 insurance for property damage and personal injury or death  
21 with a minimum benefit of \$1,000,000 that shall remain in  
22 effect through the entirety of the event.

23 (j) The Department of Natural Resources shall adopt rules  
24 necessary to implement this Section. The Department of Natural  
25 Resources shall consult and coordinate with the boating public,  
26 professional organizations for recreational boating safety,

1 and the boating retail, leasing, and dealer business community  
2 in the adoption of these rules.

3 (Source: P.A. 98-698, eff. 1-1-15; revised 12-10-14.)

4 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
5 becoming law.".