

2007 -- H 5731 SUBSTITUTE A AS AMENDED

=====
LC01153/SUB A
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2007

A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - REGULATION OF BOATS

Introduced By: Representatives Ehrhardt, and Story

Date Introduced: February 28, 2007

Referred To: House Constituent Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 46-22-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 46-22 entitled
2 "Regulation of Boats" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **46-22-12. Water skis and surfboards.** -- (a) No person shall operate a vessel on any
4 waters of this state for towing a person or persons on water skis, or a surfboard, or similar device
5 unless there is in the vessel a person at least twelve (12) years of age, in addition to the operator,
6 in a position to observe the progress of the person or persons being towed; ~~and there shall be~~
7 ~~aboard the vessel, in addition to those required for the persons aboard the vessel, at least one life~~
8 ~~preserver, or life belt, or ring buoy for the person or persons being towed.~~ Any person or persons
9 on water skis, a surfboard, a tube, or similar device that is being towed behind a vessel on any
10 waters of this state shall be required to wear a life jacket approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.

11 (b) No person shall operate a vessel on any waters of this state towing a person or
12 persons on water skis, a surfboard, or similar device, nor shall any person engage in water skiing,
13 surfboarding, or similar activity at any time between the hours from one hour after sunset to one
14 hour before sunrise.

15 (c) The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to a performer
16 engaged in a professional exhibition or a person or persons engaged in an activity authorized
17 under section 46-22-13.

18 (d) No person shall operate or manipulate any vessel, tow rope, or other device by which
19 the direction or location of water skis, a surfboard, or similar device may be affected or controlled

1 in such a way as to cause the water skis, surfboard, or similar device, or any person thereon to
2 collide with or strike against any object or person.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====
LC01153/SUB A
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - REGULATION OF BOATS

1 This act would require any person on water skis, a surfboard or similar device that is
2 being towed behind a vessel to wear a life jacket approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC01153/SUB A
=====