

SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 732

A bill to amend 1998 PA 116, entitled
"Personal watercraft safety act,"
by amending section 31 (MCL 281.1431).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 31. (1) Except as provided in ~~subsection~~ SUBSECTIONS
2 (2) AND (3), a person under the age of 14 shall not use a per-
3 sonal watercraft on the waters of this state.
4 (2) A person who is 12 or more and less than 14 years of age
5 before January 1, 1999 may use a personal watercraft on the
6 waters of this state if before January 1, 1999 he or she obtained
7 a boating safety certificate.
8 (3) A PERSON WHO IS 12 OR MORE AND LESS THAN 14 YEARS OF AGE
9 MAY USE A PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ON THE WATERS OF THIS STATE IF ALL
10 OF THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST:

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1 (A) THE PERSON IS ACCOMPANIED SOLELY BY THE PERSON'S PARENT
2 OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.

3 (B) BOTH THE PERSON AND THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN HAVE
4 OBTAINED A BOATING SAFETY CERTIFICATE.

5 (C) THE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT IS EQUIPPED BY THE MANUFACTURER
6 WITH A LANYARD-TYPE ENGINE CUTOFF SWITCH, AND THE PARENT OR LEGAL
7 GUARDIAN HAS THE LANYARD ATTACHED TO HIS OR HER PERSON, CLOTHING,
8 OR PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE.

9 (D) THE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT IS DESIGNED TO CARRY NOT LESS
10 THAN 2 PERSONS.

11 (4) ~~-(3)-~~ A person who was born after December 31, 1978
12 shall not operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of this
13 state unless he or she first obtains a boating safety
14 certificate.

15 (5) ~~-(4)-~~ Not more than 5 years after this act takes effect,
16 the graduated age provisions of this section shall be reviewed by
17 the appropriate committee of both houses of the legislature to
18 ascertain the effect, if any, these provisions have had upon the
19 safe operation of personal watercraft upon the waters of this
20 state.

21 (6) ~~-(5)-~~ The owner of a personal watercraft or a person
22 having charge over or control of a personal watercraft shall not
23 authorize or knowingly permit the personal watercraft to be oper-
24 ated in violation of this section.

25 (7) ~~-(6)-~~ This section does not apply to a performer engaged
26 in a professional exhibition or a person preparing to participate
27 or participating in a regatta, race, marine parade, tournament,

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1 or exhibition held in compliance with section 80164 of the
2 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,
3 MCL 324.80164, under a permit issued by the department and at the
4 time and place specified in the permit.