

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1595

BY: STANLEY, LITTLEFIELD and  
BOYD of the HOUSE

and

SCHUELEIN of the SENATE

AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY; CREATING  
THE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT SAFETY ACT; PROVIDING SHORT  
TITLE; DEFINING TERMS; PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS;  
PROVIDING EXCLUSIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION;  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4220 of Title 63, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Personal  
Watercraft Safety Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4220.1 of Title 63, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in the Personal Watercraft Safety Act:

1. "Personal watercraft" means a vessel which uses an inboard  
motor powering a water jet pump as its primary source of motive  
power and which is designed to be operated by a person sitting,  
standing, or kneeling on the vessel, rather than the conventional  
manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel; and

2. "Specialty prop-craft" means a vessel which is similar in appearance and operation to a personal watercraft but which is powered by an outboard or propeller driven motor.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4220.2 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A person may not:

1. Operate a personal watercraft unless each person aboard is wearing a type I, type II, type III, or type V personal flotation device approved by the United States Coast Guard; or

2. Operate a personal watercraft at any time between the hours from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.

B. A person operating a personal watercraft equipped by the manufacturer with a lanyard type engine cutoff switch shall attach such lanyard to his person, clothing, or personal flotation device as appropriate for the specific vessel.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4220.3 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The provisions of the Personal Watercraft Safety Act shall not apply to:

1. A performer engaged in a professional exhibition;

2. A person preparing to participate or participating in an officially sanctioned regatta, race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition; or

3. Specialty prop-craft.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 7th day of March, 1991.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1991.

President of the Senate