

ENROLLED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 1870

By: Bastin of the House

and

Stipe and Long (Ed) of  
the Senate

An Act relating to public health and safety;  
amending 63 O.S. 1991, Section 4212, as last  
amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, O.S.L. 1993 (63  
O.S. Supp. 1993, Section 4212), which relates to  
boating safety; modifying requirements for water  
skiing; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 1991, Section 4212, as  
last amended by Section 1, Chapter 60, O.S.L. 1993 (63 O.S. Supp.  
1993, Section 4212), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4212. A. 1. No person shall operate or give  
permission to operate a vessel on any waters of this state for  
towing a person or persons using parasails or on water skis, a  
surfboard, or similar device unless there is in such vessel:

- a. a person who is at least eight (8) years old, and who,  
in addition to the operator, is in a position to  
observe the progress of the person or persons being  
towed, or ~~unless;~~
- b. an efficient wide angle convex rear view mirror ~~has  
been~~ installed on such vessel in such manner as to  
permit the person operating said vessel to face the  
direction of travel and be in a position to observe  
the progress of the person or persons being towed.

2. Water skiing shall be allowed with any watercraft which is  
designed to accommodate two or more persons.

B. No person shall operate or give permission to operate a  
vessel on any waters of this state towing a person or persons using  
parasails or on water skis, a surfboard, a sailboard or similar  
device nor shall any person engage in parasailing, water skiing,  
surfboarding, sailboarding or similar activity at any time between  
the hours from sunset to sunrise or at such time visibility due to  
other existing conditions is obscured so as to endanger life or  
property.

C. The provisions of subsections A and B of this section do not  
apply to a performer engaged in a professional exhibition or a  
person or persons engaged in an activity authorized under Section  
4205 of this title.

D. No person shall operate or give permission to operate or  
manipulate any vessel, tow rope or other device by which the  
direction or location of parasails, water skis, a surfboard, or  
similar device may be affected or controlled in such a way as to  
cause the parasails, water skis, surfboard, or similar device, or  
any person thereon to collide with or strike against any object or  
person.

E. 1. No person shall operate or give permission to operate a personal watercraft or similar device capable of being remote controlled by the skier unless such device is factory equipped with an engine kill switch capable of shutting off the engine in the event the skier becomes detached from the personal watercraft device. 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.

~~2. Water skiing shall be prohibited with any watercraft which is designed to accommodate two or fewer persons. Water skiing shall be allowed with any watercraft which is designed to accommodate three or more persons. A rear-facing spotter shall be required for water skiing.~~

~~3.~~ No person shall operate a personal watercraft at any time between the hours from sunset to sunrise unless equipped with prescribed lights.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 1994.

Passed the House of Representatives the 26th day of April, 1994.

Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 18th day of May, 1994.

President of the Senate