
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2544

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By House Committee on Natural Resources & Parks (originally sponsored by Representatives Belcher and Beck)

Read first time 02/07/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to boating safety; amending RCW 88.12.010 and
2 88.12.060; adding a new section to chapter 88.12 RCW; and prescribing
3 penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 88.12.010 and 1933 c 72 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) "Darkness" is herein defined to be that period between one-half
8 hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

9 (2) "Waters", as used herein, are defined as any lake, pond or
10 other body of water.

11 (3) "Motor driven boats and vessels" are defined herein as all
12 boats and vessels which are self propelled.

13 (4) "Capacity label" means the label required by the United States
14 coast guard to be installed by the manufacturer that lists the maximum

1 number of persons, maximum weight, and maximum horsepower as
2 appropriate for that vessel.

3 (5) "Vessel" means every watercraft used or capable of being used
4 as a means of transportation on the water, other than a seaplane.

5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 88.12 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A person shall not operate, or permit to be operated, a vessel
8 that is loaded or powered beyond its maximum person, weight, or
9 horsepower capacity as stated on the required United States coast guard
10 capacity label.

11 (2) In the absence of the United States coast guard carrying
12 capacity label, the capacity of the vessel shall be determined by a
13 method adopted in rule by the state parks and recreation commission.
14 A person shall not operate, or permit to be operated, a vessel that is
15 loaded or powered beyond the capacity determined by the method adopted
16 in rule by the state parks and recreation commission.

17 (3) A violation of this section is a class 2 civil infraction.

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 88.12.060 and 1933 c 72 s 6 are each amended to read
19 as follows:

20 Any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be a
21 misdemeanor, except as provided in section 2(3) of this act.