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SENATE BILL 5217

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Owen, Rinehart, Swecker, McAuliffe, C. Anderson, Winsley and Kohl; by request of Parks and Recreation Commission

Read first time 01/16/95. Referred to Committee on Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to personal flotation devices; and amending RCW  
2 88.12.115.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 88.12.115 and 1993 c 244 s 14 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) No person may operate or permit the operation of a vessel on  
7 the waters of the state without a personal flotation device on board  
8 for each person on the vessel. Each personal flotation device shall be  
9 in serviceable condition, of an appropriate size, and readily  
10 accessible.

11 (2) No person may operate or permit to be operated a recreational  
12 vessel under twenty-six feet in length unless each individual twelve  
13 years of age or younger on an open deck of the vessel wears a United  
14 States coast guard-approved personal flotation device.

15 (3) Except as provided in RCW 88.12.015, a violation of subsection  
16 (1) or (2) of this section is an infraction under chapter 7.84 RCW if  
17 the vessel is not carrying passengers for hire.

1        (~~(3)~~) (4) A violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this section is  
2 a misdemeanor punishable under RCW 9.92.030, if the vessel is carrying  
3 passengers for hire.

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