

SB2270



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB2270

Introduced 10/28/2019, by Sen. Chuck Weaver

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 45/5-14

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 315-9

Amends the Boat Registration and Safety Act. Provides that an operator of any watercraft that has a person down in the water (rather than one that is actively towing a person or persons) shall display on the watercraft a bright or brilliant orange flag measuring not less than 12 inches per side. Provides that the flag shall be displayed while the person or persons have fallen off their skies or other towable devices and are in the water (rather than when they are being towed).

LRB101 12947 TAE 62188 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Boat Registration and Safety Act is amended
5 by changing Section 5-14 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 45/5-14) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 315-9)

7 Sec. 5-14. Towing of persons.

8 A. No person may operate a motorboat that has in tow or is
9 otherwise assisting a person on water skis, an aquaplane, or a
10 similar contrivance in or upon any waterway, unless the
11 motorboat has a capacity of at least 3 persons and is occupied
12 by at least 2 competent persons.

13 B. No person may operate a motorboat having in tow or
14 otherwise be assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or
15 similar contrivance from the period of one-half hour after
16 sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. This paragraph B does
17 not apply to motorboats used in duly authorized water ski
18 tournaments, competitions, exhibitions or trials therefor
19 where adequate lighting is provided.

20 C. All persons operating a motorboat having in tow or
21 otherwise assisting a person on water skis, aquaplane or
22 similar contrivance, must be careful and prudent in their
23 operation and keep at a reasonable distance from persons and

1 property so as not to endanger the life or property of any
2 person.

3 D. No person may operate or manipulate any vessel, tow rope
4 or other device by which the direction or location of water
5 skis, aquaplane, or similar device may be affected or
6 controlled in such a way as to cause the water skis, aquaplane,
7 or similar device, or any persons thereon to collide with or
8 strike against any person or object, except ski jumps, buoys
9 and like objects normally used in competitive or recreational
10 skiing.

11 E. The operator of any watercraft that has a person down in
12 the water ~~is towing a person or persons~~ shall display on the
13 watercraft a bright or brilliant orange flag measuring not less
14 than 12 inches per side. The flag shall be displayed at the
15 highest point of the area surrounding the boat's helm as to be
16 visible from all directions, continuously, while the person or
17 persons have fallen off their skies or other towable devices
18 and are in the water ~~being towed depart the boat in preparation~~
19 ~~for towing~~ and until reentry into the boat when the activity
20 has ceased. Display of the flag for purposes other than the
21 activity described in this Section is prohibited.

22 (Source: P.A. 98-697, eff. 1-1-15.)