

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. ~~Water Skiing.~~

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

21 (Source: P.A. 90-412, eff. 1-1-98.)