~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

March 3, 2021

**S. 457**

Introduced by Senators Alexander, Rice, Garrett and Cash

S. Printed 3/3/21--S.

Read the first time January 13, 2021.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑21‑870(B)(6) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PERSONAL WATERCRAFT AND BOATING SAFETY, TO INCREASE DISTANCE LIMITS BETWEEN A WATERCRAFT OPERATING IN EXCESS OF IDLE SPEED UPON CERTAIN WATERS OF THIS STATE AND A MOORED OR ANCHORED VESSEL, WHARF, DOCK, BULKHEAD, PIER, OR PERSON IN THE WATER.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 50‑21‑10 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding two appropriately numbered new items to read:

“( ) ‘Narrow waterway’ means a segment of the waters of this State that is three hundred feet or less in width.

( ) ‘Wake surf’ means to operate a vessel that is ballasted in the stern so as to create a wake that is, or is intended to be, surfed by another person.”

SECTION 2. Section 50‑21‑870(B)(6) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(6)(a) operate a personal watercraft, specialty propcraft, or vessel while upon a narrow waterway in excess of idle speed within fifty feet of a moored or anchored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or person in the water; or

(b) operate a personal watercraft, specialty propcraft, or vessel while upon ~~the~~ all other waters of this State in excess of idle speed within ~~50~~ one hundred feet of a moored or an anchored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or a person in the water, or within ~~100~~ one hundred yards of the Atlantic Ocean coast line. The prohibitions contained in this item ~~(6)~~ do not apply to an unoccupied, moored vessel or watercraft or to a person behind a vessel or watercraft who is on water skis or a floating device with the permission of the operator of the vessel or watercraft;”

SECTION 3. Section 50‑21‑870(B) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered new item to read:

“( ) wake surf in excess of idle speed within three hundred feet of a moored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or person in the water.”

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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