**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 50‑21‑870, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PERSONAL WATERCRAFT AND BOATING SAFETY, SO AS TO REQUIRE ANYONE ON A BOAT TO WEAR A PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE DURING NIGHTTIME HOURS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 50‑21‑870(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(B) No person may:

(1)(a) operate, be in possession of, or give permission to operate a personal watercraft or specialty propcraft while upon the waters of this State unless each person aboard the personal watercraft or specialty propcraft is wearing a United States Coast Guard approved personal flotation device, Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type V;

(b) operate, be in possession of, or give permission to operate a Class "A" motor boat while upon the waters of this State unless each person under the age of twelve aboard the Class "A" motor boat is wearing a United States Coast Guard approved personal flotation device, Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type V;

(c) operate, be in possession of, or give permission to operate a Class “A” motor boat while upon the waters of this State unless each person aboard the Class “A” motorboat is wearing a United States Coast Guard approved personal flotation device, Type I, Type II, Type III, or Type V, during nighttime hours. For purposes of this subitem, nighttime hours are six o’clock p.m. until six o’clock a.m. During daylight savings time, nighttime hours are eight o’clock p.m. until six o’clock a.m. A person in violation of this subitem is subject to a civil fine in the amount of one hundred dollars.

Each personal flotation device must be fastened properly, in good and serviceable condition, and the proper size for the person wearing it;”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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