

HB 2078 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Sprenger

House Committee On Natural Resources

Action Date: 02/28/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Barreto, Gorsek, McKeown, Reardon, Smith DB, Sprenger, Witt

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/7, 2/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes provision allowing new boat owners to operate boat for 60 days before obtaining boating safety education card. Removes provision allowing nonresidents to operate boat with more than 10 horsepower for less than 60 consecutive days without boating safety education card. Exempts persons engaged in commercial fishing from holding a boating safety education card. Clarifies nonresidents in possession of boating safety education card approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators meets card requirement. Clarifies statutory language regarding boating safety education cards and other terms.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 355,000 boating safety education cards distributed to date
- Decline of fatality rates
- Access to boating safety education courses
- Increase in boat size and speed
- Commercial fishing exemption from recreational boating safety education card

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Deletes the word competency. Removes requirement that a person be engaged in commercial fishing to be exempt from holding a boating safety education card.

BACKGROUND:

In 1999, the Oregon legislature enacted House Bill 2977, which established a boat safety education program. The law requires that a person pass an examination that tests for the minimum standard of boating safety, establishes a fee for the boat safety education certificate, and allows new boat owners to operate their boat for 60 days under a temporary permit before obtaining their required boating safety education card.

House Bill 2078 A would remove provisions allowing new boat owners to operate a boat for 60 days before obtaining a boating safety education card and allowing nonresidents to operate boats with more than 10 horsepower for less than 60 consecutive days without a boating safety education card.