~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE REPORT

February 18, 2021

**S. 457**

Introduced by Senators Alexander, Rice, Garrett and Cash

S. Printed 2/18/21--S.

Read the first time January 13, 2021.

**THE COMMITTEE ON FISH, GAME AND FORESTRY**

To whom was referred a Bill (S. 457) 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, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting:

/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 the waters of Lake Wylie in excess of idle speed within one hundred fifty feet of a moored or anchored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or person in the water;

(b) 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

(c) 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;”

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. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

GEORGE E. CAMPSEN III for Committee.

**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.

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

SECTION 1. 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 the waters of Lake Greenwood, Lake Hartwell, Lake Jocassee, Lake Keowee, Lake Marion, Lake Monticello, Lake Murray, Lake Robinson, Lake Russell, Lake Secession, Lake Thurmond, Lake Wateree, Fishing Creek Reservoir, Parr Reservoir, or the portion of the Savannah River from the Interstate 20 Savannah River Bridge to the New Savannah River Bluff Lock and Dam in excess of idle speed within one hundred feet of a moored or anchored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or person in the water;

(b) operate a personal watercraft, specialty propcraft, or vessel while upon the waters of Lake Wylie in excess of idle speed within one hundred fifty feet of a moored or anchored vessel, wharf, dock, bulkhead, pier, or person in the water; or

(c) operate a personal watercraft, specialty propcraft, or vessel while upon ~~the~~ all other waters of this State in excess of idle speed within ~~50~~ fifty 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)~~ subitem do not apply to an unoccupied, moored vessel or watercraft;”

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

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