



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0029/1
ZDW:ahe

2017 SENATE BILL 69

February 21, 2017 - Introduced by Senators MOULTON, FEYEN, MARKLEIN, STROEBEL and KAPENGA, cosponsored by Representatives JARCHOW, KLEEFISCH, NEYLON, ALLEN, E. BROOKS, R. BROOKS, FELZKOWSKI, GANNON, GENRICH, HORLACHER, KITCHENS, KNODL, KOOYENGA, KREMER, KULP, MURSAU, NOVAK, TITTL and TUSLER. Referred to Committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 30.69 (1) (a); *to amend* 30.69 (1) (b) and 30.69
2 (1) (c); and *to create* 30.69 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes; **relating to:** operating a
3 motorboat towing a person on water skis.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes the operation of a motorboat towing a person on water skis, aquaplane, or similar device, without having a second person in the boat to observe the person being towed, if the motorboat is equipped with a mirror that provides the operator with a wide field of vision to the rear.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 30.69 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 30.69 (1) (a) (intro.) and
5 amended to read:

6 30.69 (1) (a) (intro.) Except as provided in par. (b), no person may operate a
7 motorboat towing a person on water skis, aquaplane, or similar device unless there
8 one of the following applies:

SENATE BILL 69**SECTION 1**

1 1. ~~There is in the boat~~ motorboat a competent person in addition to the operator
2 in a position to observe the progress of the person being towed.

3 ~~(ag)~~ An observer under par. (a) 1. shall be considered competent if that person
4 can in fact observe the person being towed and relay any signals to the operator. This
5 observer requirement does not apply to motorboats classified as Class A motorboats
6 by the department actually operated by the persons being towed and so constructed
7 as to be incapable of carrying the operator in or on the motorboat.

8 ~~(am)~~ No person may engage in water skiing, aquaplaning, or similar activity,
9 at any time from sunset to sunrise. This restriction of the hours of water skiing does
10 not prevent restrictions of the hours of water skiing between sunrise and sunset by
11 local ordinances enacted pursuant to s. 30.77 (3).

12 **SECTION 2.** 30.69 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

13 30.69 (1) (a) 2. The motorboat is equipped with a mirror that provides the
14 operator with a wide field of vision to the rear.

15 **SECTION 3.** 30.69 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 30.69 (1) (b) ~~Paragraph~~ Paragraphs (a) does, (ag), and (am) do not apply to duly
17 authorized water ski tournaments, competitions, exhibitions, or trials therefor,
18 where adequate lighting is provided.

19 **SECTION 4.** 30.69 (1) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 30.69 (1) (c) In addition to complying with ~~par.~~ pars. (a), (ag), and (am), no
21 person may operate a personal watercraft that is towing a person who is on water
22 skis, an aquaplane, or similar device unless the personal watercraft is designed to
23 seat at least 3 persons.

24

(END)