

# HOUSE BILL No. 5770

February 19, 2008, Introduced by Reps. Garfield, Meltzer, Sheltroun, Pearce, Nitz, Hoogendyk, Horn, Ball, Nofs, Bieda, Stahl, Rick Jones, Brandenburg, Pastor, Espinoza and Brown and referred to the Committee on Tourism, Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
by amending section 80215 (MCL 324.80215), as added by 2000 PA 229.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 80215. (1) ~~Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3),~~  
2   ~~a~~ A person under the age of ~~14-16~~ shall not use ~~OPERATE~~ a personal  
3   watercraft on the waters of this state.

4   ~~— (2) A person who is 12 or more and less than 14 years of age~~  
5   ~~before January 1, 1999 may use a personal watercraft on the waters~~  
6   ~~of this state if before January 1, 1999 he or she obtained a~~  
7   ~~boating safety certificate.~~

8   ~~— (3) A person who is 12 or more and less than 14 years of age~~  
9   ~~may use a personal watercraft on the waters of this state if all of~~  
10   ~~the following circumstances exist:~~

~~1 (a) The person is accompanied solely by the person's parent or  
2 legal guardian.~~

~~3 (b) Both the person and the parent or legal guardian have  
4 obtained a boating safety certificate.~~

~~5 (c) The personal watercraft is equipped by the manufacturer  
6 with a lanyard type engine cutoff switch, and the parent or legal  
7 guardian has the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing,  
8 or personal flotation device.~~

~~9 (d) The personal watercraft is designed to carry not less than  
10 2 persons.~~

11 (2) ~~(4)~~ A person who was born after December 31, 1978 shall  
12 not operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of this state  
13 unless he or she first obtains a boating safety certificate.

~~14 (5) Not later than March 23, 2004, the graduated age  
15 provisions of this section shall be reviewed by the appropriate  
16 committee of both houses of the legislature to ascertain the  
17 effect, if any, these provisions have had upon the safe operation  
18 of personal watercraft upon the waters of this state.~~

19 (3) ~~(6)~~ The owner of a personal watercraft or a person having  
20 charge over or control of a personal watercraft shall not authorize  
21 or knowingly permit the personal watercraft to be operated in  
22 violation of this section.

23 (4) ~~(7)~~ This section does not apply to a performer engaged in  
24 a professional exhibition or a person preparing to participate or  
25 participating in a regatta, race, marine parade, tournament, or  
26 exhibition held in compliance with section 80164 under a permit  
27 issued by the department and at the time and place specified in the

1 permit.