

By: Eiland

H.B. No. 1118

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to operating a motor vehicle with a person riding in a boat  
3 or personal watercraft being drawn by the vehicle; creating an  
4 offense.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,  
7 is amended by adding Section 545.4145 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 545.4145. PERSON RIDING IN BOAT OR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT  
9 DRAWN BY VEHICLE; OFFENSE. (a) A person commits an offense if the  
10 person operates a motor vehicle on a roadway when another person  
11 occupies a boat or personal watercraft being drawn by the motor  
12 vehicle.

13 (b) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that  
14 the person was operating the motor vehicle while launching the boat  
15 or personal watercraft into or retrieving it from an adjacent body  
16 of water, in a parade, or in an emergency.

17 (c) In this section, "boat" and "personal watercraft" have  
18 the meanings assigned by Section 31.003, Parks and Wildlife Code.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.