

AN ACT

relating to an interim study of recreational boating safety in Texas.

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

SECTION 1. ADVISORY PANEL; STUDY. (a) The governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives shall each appoint three members to an advisory panel on recreational boating safety. The appointments by each shall include at least one representative from a boat dealer, distributor, or manufacturer licensed under Section 31.041, Parks and Wildlife Code.

(b) The panel appointed under Subsection (a) of this section shall conduct a study assessing current conditions and making recommendations regarding:

(1) boating safety generally and ways to improve boating safety on lakes and rivers in this state;

(2) the effect of boater education on boating safety and the boat rental, boat sales, and tourism industries;

(3) the effect of requiring every boat owner to carry liability insurance on boating safety and the boat rental, boat sales, and tourism industries;

(4) the effectiveness of law enforcement on lakes and rivers and ways to increase the effectiveness of law enforcement, including possible increases in the number of enforcement officers

1 and state or local responsibility for the increases; and

2 (5) any other issue the advisory panel finds relevant
3 to boating safety in this state.

4 (c) For each area of the study, the panel shall provide an
5 estimate of the costs to boaters and the boating and tourism
6 industries if the panel's recommendations were implemented.

7 (d) One member of the panel appointed by the governor shall
8 serve as the panel's presiding officer.

9 (e) The panel shall convene at the call of the presiding
10 officer.

11 (f) From the contingent expense fund of the senate and the
12 contingent expense fund of the house of representatives equally,
13 the members of the panel may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in
14 carrying out the provisions of this Act in accordance with the rules
15 of the senate and house of representatives and the policies of the
16 senate and house committees on administration.

17 (g) Not later than December 31, 2010, the panel shall report
18 the results of the study conducted under this section to the Parks
19 and Wildlife Department, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
20 speaker of the house of representatives, and the members of the
21 committee in each house of the legislature with primary
22 jurisdiction over recreational boating.

23 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
24 1, 2009.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3108 was passed by the House on April 22, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3108 on May 21, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 140, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3108 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 18, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor