

By: Larson

H.B. No. 115

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to identification numbers on vessels.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31.021(b), Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) No person may operate or give permission for the operation of any vessel or may dock, moor, or store a vessel owned by the person on the water of this state unless:

(1) the vessel is numbered as required by this chapter;

(2) the certificate of number awarded to the vessel is in full force and effect; and

(3) the identifying number set forth in the certificate is properly displayed on ~~[each side of the bow of]~~ the vessel as required by this chapter.

SECTION 2. The heading to Section 31.032, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 31.032. NUMBERING LOCATION AND VISIBILITY; EXEMPTION; DECAL ~~[ON BOW]~~.

SECTION 3. Section 31.032, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The owner of a vessel shall paint on or attach to each side of the forward half of the vessel ~~[near the bow]~~ the

1 identification number and a registration [~~validation~~] decal in the
2 manner prescribed by the department. The number shall read from
3 left to right and shall be of block characters of good proportion of
4 not less than three inches in height. The numbers shall be of a
5 color which will contrast with the hull material of the vessel and
6 so maintained as to be clearly visible and legible.

7 (a-1) On a vessel configured so that a number on the hull or
8 superstructure is not easily visible, the number must be painted on
9 or attached to a backing plate that is attached to the forward half
10 of the vessel so that the number is visible from each side of the
11 vessel.

12 (c) The commission shall adopt rules for the placement of
13 the registration [~~validation~~] decal in an alternate location for
14 antique boats. In this subsection, "antique boat" means a boat
15 that:

- 16 (1) is used primarily for recreational purposes; and
17 (2) was manufactured 35 or more years before the date
18 the registration [~~validation~~] decal is issued.

19 SECTION 4. Sections 31.033(a) and (b), Parks and Wildlife
20 Code, are amended to read as follows:

21 (a) No person may paint, attach, or otherwise display on the
22 forward half [~~either side of the bow~~] of a vessel a number other
23 than the number awarded to the vessel or granted reciprocity under
24 this chapter.

25 (b) No person may deface or alter the certificate of number
26 or the number assigned to and appearing on [~~the bow of~~] a vessel.

27 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.