

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to boater education and examinations on preventing the
3 spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants,
4 fish, and shellfish.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 31.108, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
7 amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

8 (a-1) A boater education course or equivalency examination
9 under this section must include information on how to prevent the
10 spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants,
11 fish, and shellfish, including department-approved methods for
12 cleaning:

13 (1) a boat;

14 (2) a boat's motor;

15 (3) fishing and other equipment; and

16 (4) a boat trailer.

17 SECTION 2. The Parks and Wildlife Department boater
18 education courses and equivalency examinations must include
19 information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or
20 potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish as required
21 by Section 31.108(a-1), Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this
22 Act, on or before January 1, 2014.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.