

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 844

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the North American Safe Boating Campaign on the occasion of National Safe Boating Week, which is being observed May 18 through 24, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Recreational boating, including fishing and waterskiing, is an immensely popular summer sport among Texans, and waterways can quickly become crowded, resulting in confusion, unforeseen risks, and, too often, tragedy; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Safe Boating Council, an average of 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States, and approximately 70 percent of these fatalities are caused by drowning; the vast majority of accidents occur because of human error or poor judgment and can be easily prevented; recreational boaters should never operate a boat while under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and

WHEREAS, Statistics have shown that about 80 percent of those who drowned in boating mishaps were not wearing a life jacket; although many boaters stow life jackets on board, there is rarely enough time to properly employ one in the event of an accident; in an effort to increase people's willingness to wear this essential piece of safety equipment, modern life jackets have been designed to be smaller, lighter, and more comfortable; and

WHEREAS, Boating accidents happen regardless of one's level of experience, and wearing a life jacket is the most effective way to prevent drowning for veteran and novice boaters alike; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby commend the goals of the North American Safe Boating Campaign and recognize May 18 through 24, 2013, as Safe Boating Week in Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of Safe Boating Week in Texas.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 6, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate