STATE OF NEW YORK

8626

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 22, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. MIKULIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the navigation law, in relation to requiring pontoon boat rental businesses to equip all pontoon boats available for rent with a safety ladder

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The navigation law is amended by adding a new section 44-a to read as follows:

§ 44-a. Safety ladders equipped on pontoon boat rentals. 1. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Pontoon boat" means a boat:

(i) floated by two bullet shaped pontoons;

(ii) containing no inboard motors; and

(iii) not exceeding twenty-four feet in length, as measured from end to end on the pontoon.

(b) "Pontoon boat rental business" means a business that offers pontoon boats for rent to the general public, but shall not include an individual who allows another individual to use their boat for personal relationships and without compensation.

(c) "Safety ladder" means any ladder that is not in the form of ropes, that is affixed to a pontoon boat and which is designed and manufactured in accordance with the standards and guidelines established by the department of parks, recreation and historic preservation.

2. No person, corporation, partnership, or limited liability company which is the owner of a pontoon boat rental boat business shall knowingly rent or make available for rent a pontoon boat that is not equipped with a safety ladder.

3. Failure to properly equip a pontoon boat with a safety ladder prior to the rental of such boat shall result in a warning for a first noted

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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violation, while each subsequent violation of this section shall result in a fine of five hundred dollars per violation.

§ 2. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the department of parks, recreation and historic preservation is authorized to promulgate, amend and/or repeal any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on or before such effective date.