

9619

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 13, 2014

Introduced by M. of A. LIFTON, SWEENEY -- read once and referred to the
Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to
aquatic invasive species, spread prevention, and penalties

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a
2 new section 9-1710 to read as follows:

3 S 9-1710. AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES; SPREAD PREVENTION.

4 1. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

5 (A) "ANIMAL" SHALL MEAN EVERY LIVING AND NON-LIVING CREATURE EXCEPT A
6 HUMAN BEING, DOG OR OTHER COMPANION ANIMAL AS DEFINED IN SECTION THREE
7 HUNDRED FIFTY OF THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW.

8 (B) "WATERCRAFT" SHALL MEAN EVERY MOTORIZED OR NON-MOTORIZED BOAT OR
9 VEHICLE CAPABLE OF BEING USED OR OPERATED AS A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION
10 OR RECREATION IN OR ON WATER.

11 (C) "LAUNCH" SHALL MEAN TO PLACE A WATERCRAFT INTO A WATERBODY FOR ANY
12 PURPOSE AND ANY ACTIVITY THAT TAKES PLACE WITHIN FIFTY FEET OF THE HIGH
13 WATER MARK OF THE WATERBODY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLACING A WATERCRAFT
14 INTO A WATERBODY, INCLUDING MOVING BY TRAILER OR OTHER DEVICE OR CARRY-
15 ING BY HAND A WATERCRAFT TOWARD THE WATERBODY, OR ENTERING A QUEUE PRIOR
16 TO LAUNCHING.

17 2. NO PERSON SHALL LAUNCH, OR ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH A WATERCRAFT FROM A
18 BOAT LAUNCHING SITE, A FISHING ACCESS SITE, OR ANY OTHER SITE FROM WHICH
19 A WATERCRAFT MAY BE LAUNCHED, OR LEAVE FROM THESE SITES WITH ANY PLANT
20 OR ANIMAL, OR PARTS THEREOF, VISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE, IN, ON, OR
21 ATTACHED TO ANY PART OF THE WATERCRAFT, INCLUDING LIVEWELLS, THE MOTOR,
22 RUDDER, ANCHOR OR OTHER APPURTENANTS; ANY EQUIPMENT OR GEAR; OR THE
23 TRAILING OR ANY OTHER DEVICE USED TO TRANSPORT OR LAUNCH A WATERCRAFT
24 THAT MAY COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE WATER, UNLESS A WRITTEN PERMIT IS
25 OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

26 3. NO PERSON SHALL LAUNCH, OR ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH A WATERCRAFT FROM A
27 BOAT LAUNCHING SITE, A FISHING ACCESS SITE, OR ANY OTHER SITE FROM WHICH
28 A WATERCRAFT MAY BE LAUNCHED, OR LEAVE FROM THESE SITES WITHOUT DRAINING

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

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1 THE WATERCRAFT, INCLUDING BILGE AREAS, LIVEWELLS, BAIT WELLS AND BALLAST
2 TANKS, UNLESS A WRITTEN PERMIT IS OBTAINED.

3 4. IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO LEAVE A LAUNCH SITE WITHOUT
4 FIRST REMOVING ANY PLANT MATTER OR ANIMAL MATTER ON THE WATERCRAFT OR
5 RELATED EQUIPMENT.

6 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

7 (A) NATIVE PLANTS AFFIXED TO OR TRANSPORTED IN WATERCRAFT FOR USE AS
8 CAMOUFLAGE FOR HUNTING OR WILDLIFE VIEWING PURPOSES.

9 (B) BAIT, INCLUDING BAITFISH, THAT CAN LEGALLY BE USED ON A WATERBODY
10 AND IS POSSESSED CONSISTENT WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATIONS.

11 (C) LEGALLY TAKEN GAME AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION 2 OF SECTION 11-0103
12 OF THIS CHAPTER OR FISH AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH A OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF
13 SUCH SECTION.

14 (D) THE USE OF PLANTS OR ANIMALS FOR HABITAT RESTORATION, WEED
15 CONTROL, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AQUACULTURE, OR OTHER ACTIVITY, CONSISTENT
16 WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO THEIR USE,
17 POSSESSION OR HARVEST.

18 S 2. Section 71-0703 of the environmental conservation law is amended
19 by adding a new subdivision 10 to read as follows:

20 10. ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTION 9-1710 OF THIS CHAPTER SHALL BE
21 GUILTY OF A VIOLATION AND SHALL BE PUNISHABLE AND LIABLE TO A CIVIL
22 PENALTY AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, PROVIDED, HOWEV-
23 ER, THAT UPON A SECOND OR ANY SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION, THE FINE SHALL BE
24 NOT LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS NOR MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND
25 DOLLARS.

26 S 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
27 have become a law.