

2093

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 21, 2015

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Introduced by Sen. FLANAGAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT to amend the navigation law, in relation to the operation of rowboats, canoes and kayaks

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

1     Section 1. The opening paragraph and paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) of  
2     subdivision 1 of section 40 of the navigation law, the opening paragraph  
3     as amended by chapter 163 of the laws of 1991, paragraph (c) as amended  
4     by chapter 74 of the laws of 1998, paragraph (d) as amended by chapter  
5     484 of the laws of 2005 and paragraph (e) as added by chapter 115 of the  
6     laws of 2009, are amended and a new paragraph (f) is added to read as  
7     follows:  
8     Equipment required herein shall be carried on every vessel except as  
9     otherwise provided, while underway, or at anchor with any person aboard,  
10    while on the navigable waters of the state and any tidewaters bordering  
11    on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties. Should  
12    the federal government adopt vessel equipment requirements different  
13    from those contained in this section, the commissioner shall be author-  
14    ized to adopt rules and regulations [superceding] SUPERSEDING the vessel  
15    equipment requirements of this section to achieve consistency with  
16    federal standards, and shall submit such proposed rules and regulations  
17    to the secretary of state in accordance with the state administrative  
18    procedure act within thirty days of the adoption of federal equipment  
19    requirements or submit a statement as to why such conforming changes are  
20    not being proposed.  
21    (c) Every operator or person in charge or control of a pleasure  
22    vessel, rowboat [or], canoe[, ] OR KAYAK as described in paragraphs (a)  
23    and (b) of this subdivision, shall be responsible for compliance with  
24    the provisions of this subdivision.

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

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1 (d) No person shall operate a pleasure vessel of Class A, one, two or  
2 three as classified and defined in subdivision one of section forty-  
3 three of this article [or a rowboat, canoe or kayak] nor shall the owner  
4 of such vessel while on board such vessel knowingly permit its opera-  
5 tion, unless each person on such vessel under the age of twelve is wear-  
6 ing a securely fastened United States Coast Guard approved wearable  
7 personal flotation device of an appropriate size when said vessel is  
8 underway. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any person  
9 on such vessel under the age of twelve who is within a fully enclosed  
10 cabin.

11 (e) No owner or operator of a pleasure vessel less than twenty-one  
12 feet[, including rowboats, canoes, and kayaks] shall permit its opera-  
13 tion, between November first and May first, unless each person on board  
14 such vessel is wearing a securely fastened United States Coast Guard  
15 approved wearable personal flotation device of an appropriate size when  
16 such vessel is underway.

17 (F) NO OWNER OR OPERATOR OF A ROWBOAT, CANOE OR KAYAK SHALL PERMIT ITS  
18 OPERATION UNLESS EACH PERSON ON BOARD SUCH VESSEL IS WEARING A SECURELY  
19 FASTENED UNITED STATES COAST GUARD APPROVED WEARABLE PERSONAL FLOTATION  
20 DEVICE OF AN APPROPRIATE SIZE WHEN SUCH VESSEL IS UNDERWAY.

21 S 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall  
22 have become a law.