STATE OF NEW YORK

9829

IN SENATE

April 7, 2026

Introduced by Sen. MAY -- 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 right of way rules for mechanically propelled vessels meeting swimmers, kayaks, canoes, row boats, paddleboards, crew racing shells or other nonmotorized boats or floatation devices

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

Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subdivision 2 of section 41 of the navigation law is amended to read as follows:

(f) When a mechanically propelled vessel shall meet a sailing vessel**, swimmer, kayak, canoe, row boat, paddleboard, crew racing shell or other nonmotorized boat or floatation device** proceeding in such direction as to involve risk of collision, the sailing vessel**, swimmer, kayak, canoe, row boat, paddleboard, crew racing shell or other nonmotorized boat or floatation device** shall have the right of way. **The operator of the mechanically propelled vessel must maintain a vigilant lookout to see the water in front and on the sides of the vessel.** It shall be incumbent on the master of [~~the~~] **a** sailing vessel to keep a vigilant lookout and change [~~her~~] **the** course **of such vessel**, if necessary, to avoid any danger.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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