

As Introduced

135th General Assembly

Regular Session

2023-2024

S. B. No. 7

Senator Schuring

Cosponsor: Senator Schaffer

A BILL

To amend section 1547.68 and to enact section 1
5.2316 of the Revised Code to designate April as 2
"Powerboat Safety Month" and to increase, from 3
\$30,000 to \$60,000, the maximum annual grant 4
amount that the Division of Parks and Watercraft 5
may award to certain entities for boating safety 6
education programs. 7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 1547.68 be amended and section 8
5.2316 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 9

Sec. 5.2316. The month of April is designated as 10
"Powerboat Safety Month" to emphasize the dangers of carbon 11
monoxide poisoning that can occur on a powerboat. During the 12
month of April, or more often as determined by the director of 13
natural resources, the department of natural resources shall 14
disseminate information to the public about all of the 15
following: 16

(A) Carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless, and deadly. 17

(B) Gasoline-powered engines on boats, including onboard 18

generators, produce carbon monoxide, which may poison or kill a 19
person who breathes in too much of it. 20

(C) Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are flu-like, so 21
they often go unheeded until it is too late. 22

(D) It is advised that a powerboat owner install and 23
maintain a working carbon monoxide detector on the owner's boat. 24

(E) A powerboat owner should keep carbon monoxide from 25
accumulating at deadly concentrations and make sure that outlets 26
are never blocked. 27

(F) A powerboat owner should always dock, beach, or anchor 28
at least twenty feet from the nearest boat that is running a 29
generator or engine. 30

(G) Open air boating may reduce, but does not eliminate, 31
the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and death. 32

Sec. 1547.68. To assist political subdivisions, 33
conservancy districts, state departments, or nonprofit 34
organizations in establishing or participating in boating safety 35
education programs, the division of parks and watercraft, with 36
the approval of the director of natural resources, may expend 37
moneys appropriated by the general assembly for those purposes 38
and, additionally, moneys from the waterways safety fund 39
established in section 1547.75 of the Revised Code determined to 40
be necessary by the division, but not to exceed ten per cent of 41
all moneys accruing to the fund. In no case shall a grant to any 42
one political subdivision, conservancy district, state 43
department, or nonprofit organization total more than ~~thirty-~~ 44
sixty thousand dollars in a calendar year. Moneys so allocated 45
may be used for personnel salaries and training, materials, 46
supplies, equipment, and related expenses needed to conduct 47

boating education programs. 48

The division shall disburse the moneys as provided in this 49
section in accordance with its determination of need in the 50
enforcement of this chapter and rules or for the establishment 51
of or participation in a boating safety education program. The 52
division shall disburse moneys only on a cost share basis. A 53
grantee shall provide at least twenty-five per cent of the total 54
program cost and may do so with cash, in-kind services or 55
contributions, or a combination. The cost share shall be 56
allocated by a political subdivision, conservancy district, 57
state department, or nonprofit organization for those purposes. 58

Section 2. That existing section 1547.68 of the Revised 59
Code is hereby repealed. 60