
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 976 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY L. WILLIAMS, BREWSTER, CAPPELLETTI, COSTA,
FONTANA, PENNYCUICK AND HUTCHINSON, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

REFERRED TO GAME AND FISHERIES, NOVEMBER 9, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 30 (Fish) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in preliminary provisions relating to boats and
3 boating, further providing for boating education.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 5103(c)(4) and (e)(3), (4), (5), (6) and
7 (7) of Title 30 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are
8 amended to read:

9 § 5103. Boating education.

10 * * *

11 (c) Exemptions.--The following persons are exempt from the
12 requirements of this section:

13 * * *

14 (4) A person who operates a motorboat powered by [an
15 electric motor or by an internal combustion] a motor of 25
16 horsepower or less that is not a personal watercraft.

17 * * *

18 (e) Commission duties.--The commission shall:

1 * * *

2 (3) Coordinate a Statewide program of boating safety
3 instruction and certification [at such times and locations to
4 make courses convenient for residents of various counties and
5 to maximize attendance].

6 (4) Issue a certificate of boating safety education to a
7 person who pays the fee under section 5104 (relating to fees)
8 and:

9 (i) passes a commission-approved course in boating
10 safety education; [and] or

11 (ii) [pays the fee set forth in section 5104
12 (relating to fees)] requests a replacement or duplicate
13 certificate.

14 [(5) Provide boating safety education materials to
15 persons who plan to take the boating safety course.]

16 (6) Replace a lost or destroyed certificate.

17 (7) Establish reasonable charges for persons who take
18 boating safety education courses conducted by the commission
19 or commission volunteers. Such charges shall bear a
20 reasonable relationship to the costs of providing the course
21 and the course materials.]

22 * * *

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.