

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-1043.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

SENATE BILL 22-221

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hinrichsen and Coram, Bridges

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCluskie and Will,

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Senate Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE MINIMUM AGE OF MOTORBOAT OPERATORS.

Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Current law prohibits the operation of a motorboat by a person who is less than 16 years of age; except that, a person who is at least 14 years of age but less than 16 years of age may operate a motorboat if the person has completed a boating safety course approved by the division of parks and wildlife and possesses a boating safety certificate issued by the boating safety course provider.

The bill raises the minimum age requirement from 16 to 18 years of age and retains the existing exceptions for certain persons who are at

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

least 14 years of age.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 33-13-107.1, **amend**  
3 (1), (2), (3), and (4) as follows:

4 **33-13-107.1. Minimum age of motorboat operators - youth**  
5 **education.** (1) ~~No person under sixteen~~ A PERSON WHO IS LESS THAN  
6 EIGHTEEN years of age shall NOT operate a motorboat in this state except  
7 as provided in this section.

8 (2) A person WHO IS AT LEAST fourteen years of age ~~or older who~~  
9 ~~has not reached his or her sixteenth birthday~~ AND LESS THAN EIGHTEEN  
10 YEARS OF AGE may operate a motorboat only if ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON:

11 (a) Completes a boating safety course approved by the division;  
12 ~~of parks and wildlife;~~ and

13 (b) ~~Has~~ POSSESSES a boating safety certificate issued by the  
14 boating safety course provider. ~~in his or her possession.~~

15 (3) ~~No~~ A person shall NOT permit or knowingly authorize a  
16 motorboat to be operated by a person ~~under sixteen~~ WHO IS LESS THAN  
17 EIGHTEEN years of age; except that a person WHO IS AT LEAST fourteen  
18 years of age ~~or older who has not reached his or her sixteenth birthday~~  
19 AND LESS THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE may be permitted or authorized  
20 to operate a motorboat if ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON has met the boating safety  
21 and certificate requirements of subsection (2) of this section.

22 (4) ~~No~~ NEITHER AN owner or operator of a vessel livery ~~or~~ NOR an  
23 agent or employee of such AN owner or operator shall lease, hire, or rent  
24 a motorboat to or for operation by any person ~~under sixteen~~ WHO IS LESS  
25 THAN EIGHTEEN years of age; except that a person WHO IS AT LEAST

1 fourteen years of age ~~or older who has not reached his or her sixteenth~~  
2 ~~birthday~~ AND LESS THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE may be permitted or  
3 authorized to operate a motorboat if ~~he or she~~ THE PERSON has met the  
4 boating safety and certificate requirements of subsection (2) of this  
5 section.

6 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
7 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
8 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
9 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
10 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
11 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
12 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
13 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
14 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.