



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Committee Bill No. 6160**

LCO No. 3645

\*03645HB06160ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SAFE BOATING CERTIFICATES AND THE RENTAL OF VESSELS BY BOAT LIVERY PERSONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 15-140e of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
3 *passage*):

4 (d) Any person operating a vessel other than a personal watercraft,  
5 as defined in section 15-140j, [which] that is rented [for a period of  
6 fourteen days or less] from a boat livery [need not] shall obtain a valid  
7 vessel operator license issued by the United States Coast Guard or a  
8 safe boating certificate [during] prior to the rental [period] of such  
9 vessel. An owner, agent or employee of a boat livery shall administer  
10 an equivalency examination testing knowledge of safe boating  
11 operation to any person who seeks to rent a vessel and who does not  
12 otherwise have a valid vessel operator license issued by the United  
13 States Coast Guard or a safe boating certificate issued by the  
14 commissioner. Such equivalency examination shall be approved by the  
15 commissioner. Upon such person's successful passing of such  
16 equivalency examination, an owner, agent or employee of such boat

17 livery shall issue a safe boating certificate to such person. An owner,  
18 agent or employee of a boat livery shall furnish to each rental customer  
19 literature on safety and rules of navigation as supplied by the  
20 commissioner. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may  
21 adopt regulations pursuant to chapter 54 to implement the provisions  
22 of this subsection.

23 Sec. 2. Section 15-150 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

25 (a) Each boat liveryperson shall keep a record of the name and  
26 address of every person who rents a vessel, the registration number  
27 thereof, if applicable, the departure date and time, and the expected  
28 time of return in addition to the equivalency examination administered  
29 to any such person pursuant to subsection (d) of section 15-140e, as  
30 amended by this act. [The] Such record and examination shall be  
31 preserved for [at least] not less than one year.

32 (b) Any operator of a vessel rented from a boat livery shall carry on  
33 board such vessel and make available for inspection such person's  
34 valid vessel operator license issued by the United States Coast Guard,  
35 safe boating certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation,  
36 as applicable, in addition to the original or a copy of the written rental  
37 agreement for such rental, signed by the owner of the boat livery or  
38 such owner's agent and by the person renting the vessel, stating the  
39 length of time for which such vessel is being rented, the identity of the  
40 person who rented the vessel and the vessel number which appears on  
41 the certificate of number, if vessel registration is required.

42 (c) Neither the owner nor any agent or employee of a boat livery  
43 shall permit any vessel which is rented to depart from the livery  
44 premises unless it is provided, either by the owner or lessee, with such  
45 safety devices and equipment as may be required by law.

46 (d) Neither the owner nor any agent or employee of a boat livery  
47 shall permit any vessel which is rented to depart the boat livery unless

48 such vessel is registered and numbered properly as a livery boat, if  
49 required. Except as provided in subsection (a) of section 15-144, if the  
50 vessel is required to be registered and numbered as a livery boat, the  
51 certificate of number shall be carried aboard and made available for  
52 inspection upon the vessel for which it is issued.

53 (e) Neither the owner nor any agent or employee of a boat livery  
54 shall permit an operator of any vessel [which] that is rented to depart  
55 from the boat livery without a valid vessel operator license issued by  
56 the United States Coast Guard, a safe boating certificate or a certificate  
57 of personal watercraft operation, [if such operator is] as required by  
58 [sections] section 15-140e [and] or 15-140j, [to have a safe boating  
59 certificate or certificate of personal watercraft operation] as applicable.

60 (f) Violation of any provision of this section shall be an infraction.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-140e(d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	15-150

**Statement of Purpose:**

To improve boating safety by requiring persons who rent vessels from boat liverypersons to have a safe boating certificate.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. OLSON, 46th Dist.

H.B. 6160