

For the Environment Committee, concerning HR Bill # 6541 - hearing on Friday March 8, 2013

I know that your committee is considering changing the law to allow a short on-line computer course to take the place of classroom-based safe boating courses. That's the change in the law that is also is going to allow on-line training for firearms. This is a really bad idea.

Please do not allow this new law to go into effect for a number of reasons. On line training may be sufficient for some things, but not for all things.

When I took my course in boating safety, I learned as much from the other students in the class, by the questions that they asked, and the interesting way that the teacher answered their questions. There are lots of things to learn about boating that requires more than just reading. If you are sitting at home with your PC, you cannot "hear" what the other students are asking, and what the instructor is telling them. How can students learning through a computer ever "see" what boating is about?

I STRONGLY oppose changing the regulations/laws regarding Boating Safety and Hunter Safety training at this time.

Thank you -

Respectfully,
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