

Your Honorable Senator Edward Meyer and Representative Linda M. Gentile and the Environmental Committee

Concerning HR Bill # 6541 hearing on Friday March 8, 2013.

I OPPOSE THIS BILL AND OPPOSE ALLOWING ONLINE COURSES IN BOATER AND HUNTER SAFETY.

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 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 amongst which are that:

- this rule change has not been well publicized so that the public can comment on it
- on line training is good for some things, but it's not good for "drivers education" - it can't be good for "boaters education"
- you cannot learn from other students while you are at home taking the course on your laptop
- you learn about boating from boaters
- a computer can't show you how to dock a boat - or tell you what mistakes it made while it was learning

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

Thank you

Respectfully,

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