

Senator Edward Meyer, 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 an 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 hunter safety / firearms. This is a really bad idea. Please do not let this law go into effect. Although a computer can be a good learning tool, when it comes to boating safety, a more interactive classroom approach would be more effective and allow students to learn from the experiences of other boaters and ask questions.

My brother was killed by a reckless / drunk boater last year, and I strongly believe that people need to make more of an effort to truly learn how to be safe on the water with an experienced instructor and classroom setting. Please give this more thought.

Respectfully,

Tabitha Mannino