

March 04, 2013

Environment Committee,

I've just learned about the HR Bill # 6541 from the U.S. Coast Guard Licensed Master and my question is "whose bone head idea was this". To start if this passes the origination that entered this bill should be held responsible for ALL boating and hunting accidents by those who took the online course. I am a hunter and a fishermen and I put safety first before heading out on any trip either on the water or in the woods. You must place a boat as a weapon just as a loaded gun. Anyone stepping on to a boat to captain that vessel or picking up a gun to hunt must be fully trained on proper handling a boat or the proper handling a gun.

I have taken gun safety course when I was 13 and was in a shooting club at that age. The teaching of proper handling of a weapon and respect needed to handle a firearm whether loaded or unloaded can not be done on-line unless that person only plans to use video games!

I also took an ASA course and the U.S. Coast Guard Safe Boating America course. Both courses were very good and I feel living on Long Island NY everyone interested in boating "MUST" take a course and I think it needs to be more in-depth then an online course. I also feel the Safe Boating course needs to be more in-depth to anyone captaining a vessel over 15 feet long or a motor of over 25 horse power.

Don't let the stupidly of the origination that entered this bill cause someone to lose a son, daughter, wife, husband, mother or father or any other family member. Make safe intelligent laws to protect people not stupid irresponsible laws just to make it easier for the lazy stupid people.

Thank you

Joseph DeGregorio
44 Coventry Ave
Albertson NY 11507