

Hello,

I am a boating educator and I am opposed to changing the minimum age to obtain a Safe Boating Certificate or the Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation. The fatality that is the catalyst for this proposal is a tragedy in every sense, but it does not mean that the thousands of existing or future operators under the age of 16 will be equally negligent. As an alternative you might require on-water instruction by an adult (parent or trainer) of a designated amount of hours, perhaps 5, similar to the 40 hours of on road driving required before obtaining a license.

The proposed bill is too broad and an overreaction to an isolated incident.

Regards,

Henry Moore  
Professional Marine Education