



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Committee Bill No. 5315

LCO No. 3420



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT REQUIRING KAYAK, CANOE AND PADDLEBOARD OPERATORS TO WEAR LIFE VESTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) Notwithstanding any provision of
2 chapter 268 of the general statutes, any person who operates or
3 occupies a kayak, canoe or paddleboard in the tidal waters of the state
4 during the period beginning May first and ending October thirty-first
5 of each year shall wear a personal flotation device. The Department of
6 Energy and Environmental Protection may enforce the provisions of
7 this section and the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
8 Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the
9 general statutes, to establish a fine for violation of the provisions of
10 this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

(NEW)	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To improve the safety of kayakers, canoeists and paddleboarders.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. MCGORTY, 122nd Dist.

H.B. 5315