



Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

BILL ANALYSIS

Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986
TDD: (517) 373-0543

House Bill 5607 (Substitute S-1 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Representative Brian Calley
House Committee: Tourism, Outdoor Recreation, and Natural Resources
Senate Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 801 (Marine Safety) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual who was disabled to operate a motorized vessel where it was otherwise prohibited, if certain conditions were met.

Specifically, a marine law that prohibited the operation of a motorized vessel on a portion of the State's waterways could not be enforced against an individual who met all of the following qualifications:

- The individual had a disability that prevented him or her from rowing or paddling a vessel.
- The individual had in his or her possession a marine exemption certificate.
- The individual was operating a noncommercial vessel at a slow-no wake speed using an electric motor that was rated at 100 pounds of thrust or less.

An individual could obtain a marine exemption certificate from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or a sheriff's department by presenting a physician's attestation that the physician had examined the individual and determined that he or she had a disability that prevented him or her from rowing or paddling a vessel.

The DNR would have to develop and make available for use as prescribed in the bill a physician's attestation form and a marine exemption certificate.

The bill's provisions would not exempt an individual from compliance with any other marine law.

Proposed MCL 324.80114a

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 3-27-08

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Runnels