

JAN 12 1998  
NATURAL RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 2015  
BY GARMAN

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the age of personal watercraft operators,  
2 subjecting violators to a penalty, and providing an effective  
3 date.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2015

1 Section 1. Section 462A.2, Code 1997, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 22A. "Personal watercraft" means a  
4 vessel, less than sixteen feet in length, which is propelled  
5 by a water jet pump or similar machinery as its primary source  
6 of motor propulsion and is designed to be operated by a person  
7 sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel rather than by a  
8 person sitting or standing inside the vessel.

9 Sec. 2. Section 462A.12, Code 1997, is amended by adding  
10 the following new subsection:

11 NEW SUBSECTION. 12. A person who is under fourteen years  
12 of age shall not operate a personal watercraft on the waters  
13 of this state under the jurisdiction of the commission.

14 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect on May 15,  
15 1998.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill defines personal watercraft and prohibits a  
18 person who is under 14 years of age from operating a personal  
19 watercraft on the waters of this state under the jurisdiction  
20 of the commission. A person violating this prohibition is  
21 guilty of a simple misdemeanor. Code chapter 232, relating to  
22 juvenile justice, has no application in the prosecution of  
23 violators who are less than 18 years of age.

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