

HB 2197 with HCA 1 -- LIFESAVING DEVICE REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Franklin

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness by a vote of 7 to 3.

This bill establishes a penalty for failure to comply with US Coast Guard-approved lifesaving device requirements. The operator of any watercraft in violation of the subsection of this bill is guilty of an infraction and will be fined no more than \$25.

HCA #1: This amendment establishes a fine of up to \$25 for operating a vessel and exceeding the slow-no wake speed within 100 feet of any dock, pier, occupied anchored boat, or buoyed restricted area on any lake. No court costs will be imposed on a person due to violation of this section.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this would allow there to be a check on whether there are enough lifesaving devices, and it would be an opportunity for education, and an opportunity to interact.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Franklin.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.