

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1297

H. P. 1100

House of Representatives, March 13, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Taxation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Hanson of Kennebunkport.

Cosponsors: Representative Cahill of Woolwich, Representative Vose of Eastport and Representative Jackson of Yarmouth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT for the Assessment of Watercraft.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

36 MRSA § 610-A is enacted to read:

§ 610-A. Watercraft taxed as personal property

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Age of a watercraft" shall be determined by:

- (1) The model year of the watercraft as indicated by its hull number as required by the United States Coast Guard; or
- (2) By the date the watercraft was sufficiently complete to be used on the water.

B. "Category" means the type of watercraft. There shall be 5 categories: Outboard power boats; inboard power boats; sailboats; inboard power work boats and other.

- (1) **Outboard power boat** means a watercraft whose principle means of propulsion is a motor located on the exterior of the hull, either on the stern, on the edge of a well built into the hull or on an exterior bracket.

(2) Inboard power boat means a watercraft whose principle means of propulsion is a motor or engine located inside the hull with a jet drive or a transom driven propeller or a through hull driven propeller.

(3) Sailboat means a watercraft whose principle means of propulsion is one or more sails, although it may also have an auxiliary inboard or outboard motor or engine.

(4) Inboard power work boat has the same meaning as inboard power boat except the watercraft must be used as a means for a person's livelihood for 6 months of the year.

(5) Other means all other watercraft that is not defined in this paragraph.

C. "Hull material" means the material the hull is composed of. There shall be 3 groupings of hull material: Wood; glass, plastics and ferro-cement; and metal, rubber or other material.

D. "Index number" means a number arrived at by using the formula: Length x 1/2 (base²) of the watercraft.

E. "Length" means the straight line measurement over the deck, excluding sheer, from the foremost part of the watercraft to the aftermost part, measured parallel to the center line, excluding outboard motors, brackets, bowsprits, boomkins, rudders and similar attachments. Length shall be stated in feet to the nearest inch.

F. "Value" means the monetary figure listed under the category and hull material of the watercraft.

G. "Watercraft" means any type of vessel, boat or craft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water, other than a seaplane, and includes the motor attached to it and used to propel it.

2. Assessment. All watercraft taxed as personal property under this subchapter shall be assessed at fair cash value, but not to exceed the valuations as determined in this subsection.

A. Valuation chart.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Woods	Glass, plastics and ferro-cement	Metal, rubber and other material
Authorized power boat	\$5	\$6	\$4
Inboard power boat	\$9	\$10	\$8

Inboard power work boat	\$7	\$ 9	\$8
Sailboat	\$10	\$10	\$8

Other: All watercraft not listed will be assessed at just value.

B. Assessment shall be computed by multiplying the appropriate valuation from the tables in this subsection, by the index number and then by the applicable depreciation factor for the age and hull material of the watercraft being assessed.

C. Depreciation factors shall be applied to watercraft valuations as follows for watercraft whose hull material is:

	Woods	Ferro-cement, fiberglass or other plastic	Metals or other material
During the first year of age	80%	80%	80%
second	70%	70%	70%
third	60%	60%	60%
fourth	50%	50%	50%
fifth	40%	40%	40%
to ninth			
tenth	25%	30%	25%
to nineteenth			
all subsequent years	15%	15%	15%

D. Observed assessment means adjusted assessment upon sight observation by the assessor.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill gives all municipal assessors an equitable formula for watercraft assessment.