



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 670

S.P. 211

In Senate, February 4, 1997

An Act to Increase the Visibility of a Kayak on Salt Water.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock. (BY REQUEST).

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

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Whereas, measures to improve the visibility of kayaks on coastal waters to operators of other vessels are necessary to improve public safety for the 1997 summer boating season; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

- Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
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Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6958 is enacted to read:

§6958. Operating a kayak on coastal waters without safety flags

It is unlawful for a person to operate a kayak on the coastal waters unless that person displays safety flags on the kayak that make the kayak clearly visible to other boating traffic. By May 31, 1997, the commissioner shall adopt rules governing the type of safety flags and the method of displaying those flags. Rules adopted under this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

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Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the 32 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

SUMMARY

This bill requires a person operating a kayak on the coastal 38 waters of this State to display safety flags in accordance with rules developed by the Commissioner of Marine Resources.

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