



HOUSE BILL 940

By Camper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 69,
Chapter 9, relative to personal watercraft.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 69-9-505, is amended by deleting the language "twelve (12)" and substituting "sixteen (16)".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 69, Chapter 9, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

It is unlawful for any person to own, operate, or to allow another person to operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of Tennessee unless such person is able to furnish proof of financial responsibility for the operation of the personal watercraft in the amounts specified in § 55-12-102(12)(D)(i).

SECTION 3. Section 1 of this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. Section 2 of this act takes effect July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it.

Amendment No. 2 to HB0940

Hicks G
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 918

House Bill No. 940*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 69-9-505, is amended by deleting the section and substituting:

(a) It is unlawful for persons under twelve (12) years of age to operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of Tennessee unless such person is under the direct supervision of an adult.

(b) It is lawful for persons twelve (12) years of age and thirteen (13) years of age to operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of Tennessee:

(1) On Monday through Friday, excepting legal holidays as designated in § 15-1-101; or

(2) When under the direct supervision of an adult, at all times permitted by this part.

(c) It is lawful for persons fourteen (14) years of age and older to operate a personal watercraft upon the waters of Tennessee at all times permitted under this part.

(d) As used in this section, "direct supervision" means being in such proximity with the operator so as to be able to take immediate control of the vessel.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect January 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it.

Amendment No. 3 to SB0918

Watson
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 918

House Bill No. 940*

by deleting "January 1, 2026" in the effective date section and substituting instead "January 1, 2027".