

HOUSE BILL No. 5994

May 15, 2018, Introduced by Reps. Webber and LaGrand and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 80215 (MCL 324.80215), as amended by 2008 PA 178.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 80215. ~~(1) Until October 1, 2011, except as provided in~~
2 ~~subsection (2), a person under the age of 14 shall not operate a~~
3 ~~personal watercraft on the waters of this state.~~

4 ~~— (2) Until October 1, 2011, a person who is 12 or more and less~~
5 ~~than 14 years of age may operate a personal watercraft on the~~
6 ~~waters of this state if all of the following circumstances exist:~~

7 ~~— (a) The person is accompanied solely by the person's parent or~~
8 ~~legal guardian.~~

1 ~~—— (b) Both the person and the parent or legal guardian have~~
 2 ~~obtained a boating safety certificate.~~

3 ~~—— (c) The personal watercraft is equipped by the manufacturer~~
 4 ~~with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch, and the parent or legal~~
 5 ~~guardian has the lanyard attached to his or her person, clothing,~~
 6 ~~or personal flotation device.~~

7 ~~—— (d) The personal watercraft is designed to carry not less than~~
 8 ~~2 persons.~~

9 (1) ~~(3) A person~~ **AN INDIVIDUAL** who was born after December 31,
 10 1978 shall not operate a personal watercraft ~~upon~~ **ON** the waters of
 11 this state unless he or she first obtains a boating safety
 12 certificate.

13 (2) ~~(4) Beginning October 1, 2011, a person~~ **AN INDIVIDUAL**
 14 under the age of 16 shall not operate a personal watercraft on the
 15 waters of this state unless ~~the person~~ **ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ARE**
 16 **MET:**

17 (A) **THE INDIVIDUAL** is ~~not less than~~ **AT LEAST** 14 years of age.
 18 and ~~1 of the following circumstances applies:~~

19 (B) ~~(a) The person~~ **THE INDIVIDUAL** is riding the personal
 20 watercraft with his or her parent or guardian or an individual 21
 21 years of age or older designated by the parent or guardian.

22 ~~—— (b) The person is operating or riding a personal watercraft at~~
 23 ~~a distance of not more than 100 feet from his or her parent or~~
 24 ~~guardian or an individual 21 years of age or older designated by~~
 25 ~~the parent or guardian.~~

26 (C) **BOTH THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR**
 27 **INDIVIDUAL 21 YEARS OR OLDER DESIGNATED BY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN**

1 **RIDING THE PERSONAL WATERCRAFT HAVE OBTAINED A BOATING SAFETY**
2 **CERTIFICATE.**

3 **(3)** ~~(5)~~—The owner of a personal watercraft or ~~a person~~ **AN**
4 **INDIVIDUAL** having charge over or control of a personal watercraft
5 shall not authorize or knowingly permit the personal watercraft to
6 be operated in violation of this section.

7 **(4)** ~~(6)~~—This section does not apply to a performer engaged in
8 a professional exhibition or ~~a person~~ **AN INDIVIDUAL** preparing to
9 participate or participating in a regatta, race, marine parade,
10 tournament, or exhibition held in compliance with section 80164
11 under a permit issued by the department and at the time and place
12 specified in the permit.

13 **(5)** ~~(7)~~—The **2008** amendatory act that added ~~subdivisions (4) (a)~~
14 ~~and (b) shall be known and~~ **THE CONTENT OF SUBSECTION (2)** may be
15 ~~cited as~~ **REFERRED TO AS** "Ashleigh Iserman's Law".

16 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
17 after the date it is enacted into law.