

THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 328 of 1931

750.498b Marine safety device; tampering with, taking, or removing prohibited; violation; penalty; definitions.

Sec. 498b. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a person who, without lawful authority, tampers with, takes, or removes a marine safety device owned or maintained by this state or a political subdivision of this state knowing or having reason to know that the device is a marine safety device is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

(2) A person who, without lawful authority, tampers with, takes, or removes a marine safety device owned or maintained by this state or a political subdivision of this state knowing or having reason to know that the device is a marine safety device, and thereby renders the device unavailable or unusable for rescue when needed is guilty of a crime as follows:

(a) If the violation is the proximate cause of serious impairment of a body function of another person, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 or more than \$5,000.00, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(b) If the violation is the proximate cause of the death of another person, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 15 years or a fine of not less than \$2,500.00 or more than \$10,000.00, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Marine safety device" means a device designed or intended to be used to rescue individuals in marine emergency situations, including, but not limited to, life preservers, safety harnesses, ladders, lines, and throw rings.

(b) "Serious impairment of a body function" means that term as defined in section 58c of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.58c.

History: Add. 2006, Act 233, Eff. July 1, 2006.