

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 274 (STATE AFFAIRS)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/6/92
Referred: Judiciary

Sponsor(s): SENATOR COLLINS

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the operation of personal watercraft and specialty prop-craft."

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 * Section 1. AS 05.25 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 Sec. 05.25.017. OPERATION OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFT AND SPECIALTY
5 PROP-CRAFT. (a) A person under the age of 16 years may not knowingly operate a personal
6 watercraft or specialty prop-craft on the waters of the state unless the person is accompanied on
7 the personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft by a person who is at least 18 years of age.

8 (b) A person who is operating or who is a passenger on a personal watercraft or specialty
9 prop-craft on the waters of the state shall wear a United States Coast Guard approved personal
10 flotation device.

11 (c) A person who operates a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft that is equipped
12 by the manufacturer with a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch shall attach the lanyard to the
13 person's body, clothing, or personal flotation device as appropriate for the design of the personal
14 watercraft or specialty prop-craft.

1 (d) A person may not knowingly

2 (1) operate a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft before nine o'clock in the
3 morning or after nine o'clock in the evening;

4 (2) use a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft to tow a person on water skis;

5 (3) operate a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft through emergent or
6 floating vegetation at a speed faster than no-wake speed;

7 (4) harass or chase wildlife or damage or disturb wildlife nesting sites while
8 operating a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft;

9 (5) operate a personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft within a posted shoreline
10 erosion area where erosion may be detrimental to fish and wildlife habitat, a posted fish spawning
11 area, or a posted swimming area, at a speed faster than no-wake speed.

12 (e) A person who owns or who has control of a personal watercraft or specialty prop-
13 craft may not knowingly authorize or permit a person under 16 years of age to operate a personal
14 watercraft or specialty prop-craft owned or controlled by that person unless the person under 16
15 years of age is accompanied on the personal watercraft or specialty prop-craft by a person who
16 is at least 18 years of age.

17 (f) In this section,

18 (1) "knowingly" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900(a);

19 (2) "personal watercraft" means a watercraft that uses an inboard motor powering
20 a water jet pump as the primary source of motive power and that is designed to be operated by
21 a person sitting, standing, or kneeling on the watercraft rather than in the watercraft;

22 (3) "recklessly" has the meaning given in AS 11.81.900(a);

23 (4) "specialty prop-craft" means a watercraft that uses an outboard or motor driven
24 propeller as the primary source of motive power and that is designed to be operated by a person
25 sitting, standing, or kneeling on the watercraft rather than in the watercraft.