

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 607

BY SENATORS TAKUBO, WOELFEL, JEFFRIES, CLINE AND

STOLLINGS

[Introduced March 15, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §20-7-18e, relating to allowing the use of larger horsepower boats on limited
 3 horsepower lakes under certain circumstances; violations and civil penalties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §20-7-18e, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 7. LAW ENFORCEMENT, MOTORBOATING, LITTER.

§20-7-18e. Use of larger engine boats on restricted engine lakes; special permit; penalties.

1 (a) Boats with engines larger than 9.9 horsepower may use lakes limited to boats with 9.9
 2 or less horsepower so long as they produce no wake and are in idle speed for the entire time they
 3 are on the lake. Persons operating such boats are not permitted to use their engines to reload
 4 their boats at the dock.

5 (b) Persons wishing to operate their boats in accordance with subsection (a) of this section
 6 shall purchase a special permit from the director to allow this. The permit must be displayed on
 7 the boat.

8 (c) If a person operating a boat with an engine larger than 9.9 horsepower under this
 9 section is caught exceeding the no wake speeds, the person's permit is revoked and cannot be
 10 reissued for a period of three years. The person may also be required to pay a civil fine.

11 (d) The director shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the
 12 provisions of article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code to carry out the provisions of this
 13 section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to allow the use of larger horsepower boats on limited horsepower lakes under certain circumstances; violations and civil penalties.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.