

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to vessels; providing a short title;  
 3           amending s. 327.37, F.S.; prohibiting a person under a  
 4           certain age from operating a vessel towing a person;  
 5           prohibiting the operation of a vessel towing a person  
 6           within a certain distance from a stationary structure;  
 7           providing exceptions; providing penalties; reenacting  
 8           s. 327.73(1)(i), F.S., relating to noncriminal  
 9           infractions, to incorporate changes made by the act;  
 10          providing an effective date.

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 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14           Section 1. This act may be cited as "Deviny's Law."

15           Section 2. Section 327.37, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 16 read:

17           327.37 Water skis, parasails, and aquaplanes regulated.—

18           (1) (a) A person may not operate a vessel on any waters of  
 19 this state towing a person on water skis, or an aquaplane, or  
 20 similar device unless there is in such vessel a person, in  
 21 addition to the operator, in a position to observe the progress  
 22 of the person being towed, or the vessel is equipped with a  
 23 wide-angle rear view mirror mounted in such manner as to permit  
 24 the operator of the vessel to observe the progress of the person  
 25 being towed. This subsection does not apply to class A  
 26 motorboats operated by the person being towed and designed to be  
 27 incapable of carrying the operator in the motorboat.

28           (b) A person may not operate a vessel on any waters of

29 | this state towing a person attached to a parasail or similar  
30 | device unless there is a person in the vessel, in addition to  
31 | the operator, in a position to observe the progress of the  
32 | person being towed. A wide-angle rear view mirror is not  
33 | acceptable for this purpose.

34 | (c) A person younger than 18 years of age may not operate  
35 | a vessel on any waters of this state towing a person in, on, or  
36 | above the water unless there is a person in the vessel who is at  
37 | least 18 years of age and in a position to observe the progress  
38 | of the vessel and the person being towed.

39 | (2) (a) A person may not engage in water skiing,  
40 | parasailing, aquaplaning, or any similar activity at any time  
41 | between the hours from one-half hour after sunset to one-half  
42 | hour before sunrise.

43 | (b) A person may not engage in water skiing, parasailing,  
44 | aquaplaning, or any similar activity unless such person is  
45 | wearing a noninflatable type I, type II, type III, or type V  
46 | personal flotation device approved by the United States Coast  
47 | Guard.

48 | (3) The provisions of subsections (1) and (2) do not apply  
49 | to a performer engaged in a professional exhibition or a person  
50 | preparing to participate or participating in an official  
51 | regatta, boat race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition  
52 | held pursuant to s. 327.48.

53 | (4) A person may not operate or manipulate any vessel, tow  
54 | rope, or other device by which the direction or location of  
55 | water skis, parasail, aquaplane, innertube, sled, or similar  
56 | device may be affected or controlled, in such a way as to cause

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57 | the water skis, parasail, aquaplane, innertube, sled, or similar  
58 | device or any person thereon to collide or strike against or be  
59 | likely to collide or strike against any vessel, bridge, wharf,  
60 | pier, dock, buoy, platform, piling, channel marker, or other  
61 | object, except slalom buoys, ski jumps, or like objects used  
62 | normally in competitive or recreational skiing.

63 | (5) A person may not operate any vessel towing a parasail  
64 | or engage in parasailing within 100 feet of the marked channel  
65 | of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway.

66 | (6) A person may not operate any vessel that is towing a  
67 | person in, on, or above the water within 50 yards of any  
68 | stationary structure, including a moored vessel, bridge, wharf,  
69 | pier, dock, buoy, platform, piling, channel marker, or any other  
70 | stationary object, except slalom buoys, ski jumps, or like  
71 | objects used normally in competitive or recreational skiing.

72 | Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment  
73 | made by this act to section 327.37, Florida Statutes, in a  
74 | reference thereto, paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section  
75 | 327.73, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

76 | 327.73 Noncriminal infractions.—

77 | (1) Violations of the following provisions of the vessel  
78 | laws of this state are noncriminal infractions:

79 | (i) Section 327.37, relating to water skiing, aquaplaning,  
80 | parasailing, and similar activities.

81 | Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.