

ASSEMBLY, No. 1120

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblyman LANCE

1 AN ACT establishing an Advisory Council on Delaware River Power
2 Boating and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. the Delaware River offers both scenic beauty and recreational
9 opportunities;

10 b. the use of power boats, especially personal watercraft, on the
11 Delaware River from Trenton northward has increased markedly in
12 recent years;

13 c. this activity often competes with the ability of persons to engage
14 in other forms of recreation on the river;

15 d. the noise generated by certain vessels, in particular by multiple
16 personal watercraft engaged in repetitive maneuvers, is sometimes
17 disturbing to visitors, local residents and business owners in the
18 municipalities along the Delaware; and

19 e. there is a need to create an advisory council to study options for
20 using the river which balance the interest of power boaters and
21 jetskiers in operating their vessels and the interest of other persons in
22 quiet enjoyment of the Delaware River.

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24 2. There is hereby established an Advisory Council on Delaware
25 River Power Boating. The advisory council shall consist of 17
26 members. Four public members shall be appointed by the President of
27 the Senate. Four public members shall be appointed by the Speaker of
28 the General Assembly. In making appointments, the President and the
29 Speaker shall consult with, and accept recommendations from,
30 members of the Senate and the General Assembly who represent
31 legislative districts which border on the Delaware River from Trenton
32 northward. Nine members shall be appointed by the Governor as
33 follows: three public members, two officials of the New Jersey
34 Department of Environmental Protection, two officials of law
35 enforcement agencies having jurisdiction over power boating and two

1 persons who are engaged in the manufacture, sale or distribution of
2 power boats or who are owners or operators of power boats. Public
3 members of the advisory council shall have an active interest in the
4 Delaware River and in issues relating to the effects of power boating
5 thereon. Persons holding elective public office in the counties and
6 municipalities bordering on the river may be appointed to the council
7 by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly
8 or the Governor to serve as public members of the advisory council.
9 The advisory council shall organize as soon as possible after the
10 appointment of its members. The members shall select one person
11 from among the members of the advisory council to serve as the
12 chairperson thereof. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as
13 the original appointments were made. Members of the advisory
14 council shall serve without compensation but, within the limits of
15 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the advisory
16 council, shall be eligible for reimbursement of necessary expenses
17 incurred in the performance of their duties.

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19 3. It shall be the duty of the advisory council to study the use of
20 power boats, and especially personal watercraft, on the Delaware
21 River from Trenton northward and the impact of this activity on
22 persons who engage in other forms of recreation on the river or who
23 visit, live or work in the municipalities along the river. The advisory
24 council shall make recommendations to the Legislature, to the boating
25 regulatory agencies in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and to other State
26 or local officials, as appropriate, concerning ways in which the
27 interests of power boaters and of other persons can best be balanced
28 so that all can share in the scenic, recreational and other uses of the
29 Delaware River.

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31 4. The advisory council may meet and hold hearings at any place
32 or places it shall designate during the sessions or recesses of the
33 Legislature. The commission may meet with any similar body created
34 by the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of exchanging views,
35 analyzing problems and making recommendations, with the goal of
36 encouraging both states to establish uniform boating policies and
37 enforcement procedures.

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39 5. The advisory council may request the assistance and services of
40 the employees of any State, county or municipal department, board,
41 bureau, commission, task force or agency as it may require and as may
42 be available to it for its purposes. It may also, within the limits of
43 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the advisory council
44 for its purposes, employ stenographic and clerical assistants and incur
45 travel and miscellaneous expenses necessary for the performance of its
46 duties.

1 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill establishes a 17-member Advisory Council on Delaware
7 River Power Boating. The duty of the advisory council shall be to
8 study the use of power boats, and especially personal watercraft, on
9 the Delaware River from Trenton northward and the impact of this
10 activity on persons who engage in other forms of recreation on the
11 river or who visit, live or work in the municipalities along the river.

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16 Establishes an Advisory Council on Delaware River Power Boating.