

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 606

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 1996

By Senator SCHLUTER

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

3

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 ¹[:

8 a.]¹ the Delaware River offers both scenic beauty and recreational
9 opportunities;

10 ¹[b.] that¹ the use of power boats, especially personal watercraft,
11 on the Delaware River from Trenton northward has increased
12 markedly in recent years;

13 ¹[c.]that¹ this activity often competes with the ability of persons to
14 engage in other forms of recreation on the river;

15 ¹[d.] and that¹ the noise generated by certain vessels, in particular
16 by multiple personal watercraft engaged in repetitive maneuvers, is
17 sometimes disturbing to visitors, local residents and business owners
18 in the municipalities along the Delaware ¹]; and

19 e.]

20 The Legislature therefore determines that¹ there is a need to create
21 an advisory council to study options for using the river which balance
22 the interest of power boaters and jetskiers in operating their vessels
23 and the interest of other persons in quiet enjoyment of the Delaware
24 River.

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26 2. There is hereby established an Advisory Council on Delaware
27 River Power Boating. The advisory council shall consist of ¹[17]13¹
28 members. ¹[Four] Three¹ public members shall be appointed by the
29 President of the Senate. ¹[Four] Three¹ public members shall be
30 appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly. In making
31 appointments, the President and the Speaker shall consult with, and

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SNR committee amendments adopted June 24, 1996.

1 accept recommendations from, members of the Senate and the General
2 Assembly who represent legislative districts which border on the
3 Delaware River from Trenton northward. ¹[Nine] Seven¹ members
4 shall be appointed by the Governor as follows: three public members,
5 ¹[two officials] one official¹ of the New Jersey Department of
6 Environmental Protection, ¹[two officials] one official¹ of ¹a¹ law
7 enforcement ¹[agencies] agency¹ having jurisdiction over power
8 boating ¹[and two persons], one person¹ who ¹[are] is¹ engaged in the
9 manufacture, sale or distribution of power boats ¹[or] and one person¹
10 who ¹[are owners] is an owner¹ or ¹[operators] operator¹ of ¹a¹ power
11 ¹[boats] boat¹. Public members of the advisory council shall have an
12 active interest in the Delaware River and in issues relating to the
13 effects of power boating thereon. Persons holding elective public
14 office in the counties and municipalities bordering on the river may be
15 appointed to the council by the President of the Senate, the Speaker
16 of the General Assembly or the Governor to serve as public members
17 of the advisory council. The advisory council shall organize as soon
18 as possible after the appointment of its members. The members shall
19 select one person from among the members of the advisory council to
20 serve as the chairperson thereof. Vacancies shall be filled in the same
21 manner as the original appointments were made. Members of the
22 advisory council shall serve without compensation but, within the
23 limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the
24 advisory council, shall be eligible for reimbursement of necessary
25 expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

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

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39 4. The advisory council may meet and hold hearings at any place
40 or places it shall designate during the sessions or recesses of the
41 Legislature. The commission may meet with any similar body created
42 by the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of exchanging views,
43 analyzing problems and making recommendations, with the goal of
44 encouraging both states to establish uniform boating policies and
45 enforcement procedures.

1 5. The advisory council may request the assistance and services of
2 the employees of any State, county or municipal department, board,
3 bureau, commission, task force or agency as it may require and as may
4 be available to it for its purposes. It may also, within the limits of
5 funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the advisory council
6 for its purposes, employ stenographic and clerical assistants and incur
7 travel and miscellaneous expenses necessary for the performance of its
8 duties.

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10 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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14

15 Establishes an Advisory Council on Delaware River Power Boating.