HB 96 -- Boating Safety

Sponsor: Luetkemeyer

This bill requires any person born after August 28, 1982, to possess a boating safety identification card in order to operate a vessel or personal watercraft on Missouri lakes. The Missouri State Water Patrol will issue the card. The card will be issued to persons who: (1) have successfully completed a boating safety course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and certified by the Missouri State Water Patrol; (2) have passed an equivalency examination prepared and administered by the Water Patrol; or (3) hold a valid master's, mate's, or operator's license issued by the United States Coast Guard. The Water Patrol may charge a fee for the card that does not substantially exceed the administrative cost of this provision.

The bill also requires that any person convicted of certain boating offenses must enroll and complete a boating safety education course which meets the Water Patrol's minimum standards, file proof of successful completion of the course with the court, and not operate a vessel until filing proof.