

HCS SCS SB 49 -- WATERCRAFT

SPONSOR: Brown (Hardwick)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for SB 49.

This bill modifies provisions relating to watercraft.

This bill provides that vessels may be issued a permanent certificate of number upon payment of three times the fee specified for the vessel under this section and three times the fee required for a three-year certificate of number. Permanent certificates of number shall not be transferred to any other person or vessel, or displayed on any vessel other than the vessel for which it was issued, and shall continue in force and effect until terminated or discontinued as provided by law (Section 306.030, RSMo).

The bill also prohibits vessels positioned within 100 feet of a permitted boat dock from being anchored in a manner that obstructs ingress or egress of watercraft to or from the dock, unless authorized by the boat dock permit holder. The bill also provides that no person shall secure a vessel to or enter upon a private permitted boat dock unless authorized to do so by the boat dock permit holder, or as specified in the bill. A violation of these provisions shall be an infraction.

Operating or positioning a vessel in a manner that obstructs or impedes the normal flow of traffic on the waters of this state will be an infraction, rather than a Class C misdemeanor for a first offense or a Class B misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense (Section 306.221).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that they hope this bill will keep trespassers off their docks and stop other boats from getting in the way of their ingress and egress to their own boat slips.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Brown; and Arnie C. Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.