

SENATE RESOLUTION
8681

By Senators Rasmussen, Jacobsen, Spanel, Johnson and Fraser

WHEREAS, Recreational boating is a beloved activity enjoyed by many in Washington;
and

WHEREAS, Washington has the fourth highest boater accident rate in the nation, and 87 percent of the operators involved in those accidents had not received any sort of boater safety training; and

WHEREAS, Through implementation in 36 other states, boater safety education has been proven to reduce serious accidents; and

WHEREAS, Boating safety education programs contribute to the reduction of accidents and increase the enjoyment of boating by all operators of all recreational vessels on Washington's waters; and

WHEREAS, Boater safety education in Washington would be phased in so that boaters are required to obtain a boater education card by January 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The boater safety education programs include training on preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species; and

WHEREAS, The programs set minimum standards for boating safety accomplishment, course instruction, examination, and accreditation that are consistent with United States Coast Guard regulations; and

WHEREAS, Boater safety programs encourage coordination with volunteer and private sector efforts to enhance boating safety and education for operators of nonmotorized vessels; and

WHEREAS, Successful implementation of boater safety education will make the waters of Washington more enjoyable for boaters, swimmers, and fishermen;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate recognize the importance of promoting boater safety for the protection of all Washington citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the United States Power Squadrons.

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate,
do hereby certify that this is a true and
correct copy of Senate Resolution 8681,
adopted by the Senate
April 21, 2005

THOMAS HOEMANN
Secretary of the Senate