

CHAPTER 421

S.B. No. 1073

AN ACT

relating to the time of operation of water skis, aquaplanes, and similar devices.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 31.103, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 31.103. WATER SKIS, AQUAPLANES, ETC.: TIME AND MANNER OF OPERATION. (a) No person may operate a vessel on any water of this state towing a person or persons on water skis, surfboards, or similar devices and no person *while being towed* may engage in water-skiing, surfboarding or similar activity at any time between the hours from *one-half* [one] hour after sunset to *one-half* [one] hour before sunrise. This subsection does not apply to motorboats or vessels used in water ski tournaments, competitions, or exhibitions or trials therefor if adequate lighting is provided.

(b) All motorboats having in tow or otherwise assisting in towing a person on water skis, aquaplanes, or similar contrivances shall be operated in a careful and prudent manner and at a reasonable distance from persons and property so as not to endanger the life or property of any person.

(c) A person being towed on water skis, aquaplanes, or similar devices by a vessel is considered an occupant of the vessel.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1993.

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on April 6, 1993, by a viva-voce vote; passed the House on May 21, 1993, by a non-record vote.

Approved June 6, 1993.

Effective Sept. 1, 1993.