

2015 -- S 0992 SUBSTITUTE A

LC002838/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Ottiano, Felag, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: June 11, 2015

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 46 of the General Laws entitled "WATERS AND NAVIGATION" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 27.1

4 PROHIBITION OF POWERBOATS ON STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

5 **46-27.1-1. Legislative findings.** -- The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:

6 (1) Water is vital to life and comprises an invaluable natural resource which is not to be  
7 abused by any segment of the state's population or its economy. It is the policy of this state to  
8 restore, enhance, and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of its waters to  
9 protect public health;

10 (2) The waters of this state are a critical renewable resource which must be protected to  
11 insure the availability of safe and potable drinking water for present and future needs;

12 (3) Stafford Pond in the town of Tiverton is the primary source of potable water for the  
13 residents of the town of Tiverton and it is a paramount policy of the state to maintain the quality  
14 of the water in Stafford Pond consistent with its use for drinking supplies and other designated  
15 beneficial uses; and

16 (4) The objective of this chapter is to insure the effective and efficient conservation and  
17 protection of the water supplied by Stafford Pond.

18 **46-27.1-2. Certain powerboats prohibited on Stafford Pond.** -- As of July 1, 2015, the

1 use of powerboats on Stafford Pond in Tiverton, Rhode Island, by persons owning real estate  
2 abutting Stafford Pond and others using the Rhode Island department of environmental  
3 management boat ramp on Stafford Pond or any other access point on Stafford Pond, shall be  
4 limited to powerboats with engines of ten (10) horsepower or less.

5 **46-27.1-3. Exceptions.** -- Law enforcement personnel, authorized rescue personnel, and  
6 personnel of the Stone Bridge fire district, and owners and operators of the water treatment plant  
7 on Stafford Pond, while on official business, may utilize powerboats on Stafford Pond,  
8 notwithstanding the provisions of § 46-27.1-2.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE  
ISLAND

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1           This act would limit the use of powerboats on Stafford Pond in Tiverton, Rhode Island, to  
2 those with engines of ten (10) horsepower or less, as of July 1, 2015. That limitation would not  
3 apply to law enforcement, rescue and Stone Bridge fire district personnel, as well as the owners  
4 and operators of the Stafford Pond water treatment plant.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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