

(1) [complied] COMPLIED with §§ 8-712 and 8-716 OF THIS SUBTITLE; and

(2) [has numbered] NUMBERED the vessel to be chartered in [this] THE State as the state of principal use.

8-712.

(a) (1) Any vessel equipped with propulsion machinery of any type on the waters of the State shall be numbered for identification in accordance with this subtitle[,] and any [rule or] regulation pursuant to it. This provision does not apply to the following vessels:

[(1)] (I) A vessel which has a valid document issued by the United States Coast Guard or its successor;

[(2)] (II) A vessel with a valid number awarded pursuant to federal law or a [federally-approved] FEDERALLY APPROVED numbering system of another state, if the number awarded is displayed in accordance with the requirements of that system, and the certificate of number is available for inspection whenever the vessel is in use;

[(3)] (III) A vessel from a country other than the United States temporarily using the waters of the State for less than 90 days;

[(4)] (IV) A vessel used for public service and owned by the United States government, another state, or any political subdivision;

[(5)] (V) A ship's lifeboat;

[(6)] (VI) A vessel propelled only by sail;

[(7)] (VII) A vessel numbered according to the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971; or

[(8)] (VIII) A vessel manually propelled.

(2) The Department, by [rule or] regulation, for the period [it] THE DEPARTMENT prescribes may exempt any vessel or class of vessels from the numbering provisions of this [subtitle] SUBTITLE, if the vessel or class of vessels is exempted from the federal numbering requirements by statute, or rule or regulation.

(c) (1) The annual fee for each certificate of boat number is \$12 for the calendar year in which the certificate is issued. However, any vessel 16 feet in length[,] or less[,] equipped with a 7 1/2 horsepower motor[,] or less[,] is exempt from this fee. The fee to replace a lost, destroyed, or corrected certificate is \$2. The Department shall record any transaction or transfer of numbered boats. [It] THE DEPARTMENT may record any amount of money owing on a vessel required to be numbered at the time of sale. The Department may not effect a transfer of ownership until the amount of money owed as shown on the records of the Department is fully paid or recorded on the new title. Any vessel that is required to be numbered under this section that is exempt prior to January 1, 1974[,] shall be exempt from payment of this title tax.