

of buoys, mooring buoys, and other apparatus used to secure, berth, or moor vessels in the waters of the State. The Department shall consult with any county affected by the program.

(b-1) The Department shall adopt regulations governing the following:

(1) The numbering of vessels for identification, safety equipment on vessels, and operations of any vessels subject to this subtitle so that each ~~TYPE OR SIZE~~ vessel ~~OF A TYPE OR SIZE~~ complying with the regulations may be operated with equal freedom or under similar requirements ~~AS OTHER VESSELS OF THAT TYPE OR SIZE~~ on all waters of the State. The numbering system used shall conform to the one adopted by the federal government. These regulations may not conflict with any federal law or regulation applicable to vessels on the waters in the State;

(2) The issuance of certificates of title and certificates of boat number;

(3) Instructions for making reports and handling personnel and boats in case of accidents;

(4) Abandonment, destruction, theft, recovery, sale, or transfer of ownership;

(5) Change of address of owner;

(6) Use of boats from other jurisdictions on the waters of the State;

(7) Issuance of certificates of number for boats changing their state of principal use to Maryland;

(8) Cooperation with local governments and the federal authority for special events or to meet emergency situations; and

(9) Issuance of certificates of number to owners of fleets or boats for hire or rent.

(B-2) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ABOVE IDLE SPEED IN ANY AREA OF WATER WITH A DEPTH OF LESS THAN 18 INCHES.

(2) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS LIMITING THE USE OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFT IN ANY AREA OF WATER WITH A DEPTH OF LESS THAN 1 METER.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

May 17, 2001

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
State House  
Annapolis MD 21401