

Floor Amendment to HB 1616-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT relative to the New Hampshire marine patrol.

4

5 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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7 1 Penalties. Amend RSA 270:18 to read as follows:

8

270:18 Penalty.

9

10 *I.* If any person operates any boat required to be registered under RSA 270-E without  
11 registration, or violates any provision of RSA 270, or ***RSA*** 270-E, or any rule adopted by the  
12 department of safety relating to the equipment or operation of such boats, or does not exhibit, upon  
13 request, the certificate of registration of such boat to any duly authorized representative of the  
14 department, such person, and the owner of the boat if the boat is operated with his ***or her***  
permission or assent, shall be guilty of a violation.

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16 ***II. Unless otherwise provided in statute, any person convicted of a violation of any***  
17 ***provision of this chapter, or of any rule made under authority thereof, shall be fined \$50***  
18 ***plus penalty assessment for a first offense. For any subsequent offense committed during***  
***any calendar year, such person shall be fined \$100 plus penalty assessment.***

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20 2 Riding on Gunwales, Bow and Transom. RSA 270-D:7 is repealed and reenacted to read as  
follows:

21

22 270-D:7 Riding on Gunwales, Bow and Transom. No person shall operate a motorboat while a  
23 person is sitting on the gunwale, transom, or straddling the bow while the motorboat is in operation  
underway.

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25 3 Public and Congregate Mooring Fields, Permit Required. Amend RSA 270:67, I(c) to read as  
follows:

26

27 (c) Each public mooring field applicant shall be assessed [a] an annual mooring fee [of  
28 ~~\$25 which shall be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6 a]~~ ***as***  
***specified in RSA 270:62.***

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30 4 Public and Congregate Mooring Fields; Permit Required. Amend RSA 270:67, II(c) to read as  
follows:

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32 (c) Each congregated mooring field ***applicant*** permitted by the director shall be assessed  
an annual mooring fee [of ~~\$25 for each mooring installed in the congregated mooring field which shall~~

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1 ~~be deposited in the navigation safety fund established under RSA 270-E:6-a]~~***as specified in RSA***  
2 ***270:62.***

3 5 Display of Numbers and Decals Required. Amend RSA 270-E:8 to read as follows:

4 270-E:8 Display of Numbers and Decals Required.

5 I. Every vessel required to be registered in this state shall display the boat fee decal under  
6 RSA 270-E:5-a and the vessel numbers issued to the vessel as part of the registration process, unless  
7 the vessel is exempt under the provisions of RSA 270-E:9.

8 II. ***The owner shall paint on, attach, or otherwise display to each side of the***  
9 ***forward half of the vessel the numbers assigned by the department not less than 3 inches in***  
10 ***height, with block letters of contrasting color, and they shall be clearly readable when the***  
11 ***vessel is being operated. The numbers shall be maintained in legible condition. No***  
12 ***numbers other than the numbers validly assigned to a vessel shall be painted, attached or***  
13 ***otherwise displayed on either side of the forward half of such vessel.***

14 III. Any person who operates a vessel on the inland or tidal and coastal waters of this state  
15 without displaying the vessel numbers, boat fee decal, or other decal required by this chapter in the  
16 manner required by this chapter, unless exempt under the provisions of RSA 270-E:9, shall be guilty  
17 of a violation for a first offense and a misdemeanor for a second offense.

18 6 Repeal. The following are repealed:

19 I. RSA 270:46-a, relative to boat safety courses.

20 II. RSA 270-D:2-c, III, relative to rental boat safety checklists.

21 7 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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2026-1148h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies boating laws by updating penalties, increasing mooring field fees, prohibiting certain operating practices, requiring vessel display standards, and removing specified safety provisions.