

HB 393-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

13Feb2025... 0126h

2025 SESSION

25-0472

06/02

HOUSE BILL

393-FN

AN ACT prohibiting mooring of boats without a permit.

SPONSORS: Rep. J. Smith, Carr. 5; Rep. Avellani, Carr. 4; Rep. R. Brown, Carr. 3; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 7; Rep. Crawford, Carr. 3; Rep. J. MacDonald, Carr. 6; Rep. D. Paige, Carr. 1; Rep. Peternel, Carr. 6; Rep. Woodcock, Carr. 1

COMMITTEE: Resources, Recreation and Development

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill expands the definition of "mooring" to include spuds, lifts, and similar devices used to secure boats to the bottom of the public waters of the state. This bill also prohibits the use of spuds, lifts, or similar devices in place of a permitted mooring in waters requiring mooring permits and includes a list of exemptions.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT prohibiting mooring of boats without a permit.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Mooring of Boats on Public Waters; Definitions. Amend RSA 270:59, III to read as follows:

2 III. "Mooring" when used as a noun, means a mooring anchor, or other fixed object or
3 stationary point, with or without a mooring buoy together with attached chains, cables, ropes, and
4 pennants and related equipment used for the purpose of securing watercraft; **or any spuds, lifts, or**
5 **other devices which are an integral part of the vessel and being used to secure a boat to the**
6 **bottom of the public waters of the state in lieu of a dock or pier.**

7 2 New Paragraph; Moorings Prohibited. Amend RSA 270:64 by inserting after paragraph III
8 the following new paragraph:

9 IV. No person shall use spuds, lifts, or similar devices that are an integral part of a vessel,
10 in lieu of a permitted mooring, on any body of water requiring a mooring permit. Notwithstanding
11 any other provision of law, the following uses shall be exempt from this section:

12 (a) Commercial barges engaged in their trade and moored adjacent to shorefront
13 property with the permission of the landowner;

14 (b) Vessels operated by state, local, or federal agencies; or

15 (c) Vessels occupied by an operator for stabilization in the water for waterborne
16 activities, including, but not limited to, fishing.

17 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

**HB 393-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2025-0126h)**

AN ACT prohibiting mooring of boats without a permit.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund</i>	None			
Expenditures*	Indeterminable			
<i>Funding Source</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source</i>	None			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

Estimated Political Subdivision Impact				
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
County Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
County Expenditures	Indeterminable			
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditures	Indeterminable			

METHODOLOGY:

This bill adds, deletes, or modifies a criminal penalty, or changes statute to which there is a penalty for violation. Therefore, this bill may have an impact on the judicial and correctional systems, which could affect prosecution, incarceration, probation, and parole costs, for the state, as well as county and local governments. A summary of such costs can be found at: https://gencourt.state.nh.us/lba/Budget/Fiscal_Notes/JudicialCorrectionalCosts.pdf

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Judicial Branch, Judicial Council, Department of Justice, Department of Corrections, New Hampshire Association of Counties, and New Hampshire Municipal Association