

CHAPTER 50  
HB 393-FN - FINAL VERSION

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

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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.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

CHAPTER 50  
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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 50:1 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 stationary  
3 point, with or without a mooring buoy together with attached chains, cables, ropes, and pennants and  
4 related equipment used for the purpose of securing watercraft; ***or any spuds, lifts, or other devices which***  
5 ***are an integral part of the vessel and being used to secure a boat to the bottom of the public waters of the***  
6 ***state in lieu of a dock or pier.***

7 50:2 New Paragraph; Moorings Prohibited. Amend RSA 270:64 by inserting after paragraph III the  
8 following new paragraph:

9 IV. No person shall use spuds, lifts, or similar devices that are an integral part of a vessel, in lieu  
10 of a permitted mooring, on any body of water requiring a mooring permit. Notwithstanding any other  
11 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 property  
13 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 activities,  
16 including, but not limited to, fishing.

17 50:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2026.

Approved: May 29, 2025  
Effective Date: January 01, 2026

