

[118H4376]

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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to study and report to the Congress regarding recreational vessel operator training.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GARBARINO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to study and report to the Congress regarding recreational vessel operator training.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Brianna Lieneck Boat-
5 ing Safety Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECREATIONAL VESSEL OPERATOR EDUCATION**
2 **AND TRAINING.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the depart-
5 ment in which the Coast Guard is operating shall study
6 and report to the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
7 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
8 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
9 Senate regarding recreational vessel operator training.
10 The study and report shall include a review of—

11 (1) Coast Guard Auxiliary and Power Squadron
12 training programs;

13 (2) existing State boating education programs,
14 including programs by the National Association of
15 State Boating Law Administrators (in this section
16 referred to as “NASBLA”); and

17 (3) other hands-on training programs available
18 to recreational vessel operators.

19 (b) INCLUDED SUBJECTS.—The study shall specifi-
20 cally examine—

21 (1) course materials;

22 (2) course content;

23 (3) training methodology;

24 (4) assessment methodology; and

25 (5) relevancy of course content to risks for rec-
26 reational boaters.

1 (c) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under this
2 section shall include—

3 (1) a section regarding steps the Coast Guard
4 and NASBLA have taken to encourage States to
5 adopt mandatory recreational vessel operator train-
6 ing;

7 (2) an evaluation of the ability of the States to
8 harmonize their education programs and testing pro-
9 cedures;

10 (3) an analysis of the extent States have pro-
11 vided reciprocity among the States for their respec-
12 tive mandatory and voluntary education require-
13 ments and programs;

14 (4) a section examining the level of uniformity
15 of education and training between the States that
16 currently have mandatory education and training
17 programs;

18 (5) a section outlining the minimum standards
19 for education of recreational vessel operators;

20 (6) a section analyzing how a Federal training
21 and testing program can be harmonized with State
22 training and testing programs;

23 (7) an analysis of course content and delivery
24 methodology for relevancy to risks for recreational
25 boaters;

1 (8) a description of the current phase-in periods
2 for mandatory boater education in State mandatory
3 education programs and recommendation for the
4 phase-in period for a mandatory boater education
5 program including an evaluation as to whether the
6 phase-in period affects course availability and cost;

7 (9) a description of the extent States allow for
8 experienced boaters to bypass mandatory education
9 courses and go directly to testing;

10 (10) recommendations for a bypass option for
11 experienced boaters;

12 (11) a section analyzing how the Coast Guard
13 would administer a Federal boating education, train-
14 ing, and testing program; and

15 (12) an analysis of the extent to which a Fed-
16 eral boating education, training, and testing pro-
17 gram should be required for all waters of a State,
18 including internal waters.