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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3310

03/17/2016 Authored by Hertaus, Pugh, Gruenhagen, Selcer, Rosenthal and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Mining and Outdoor Recreation Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; creating Sophia's Law; requiring marine-grade
1.3 carbon monoxide detection devices on certain motorboats; requiring safety
1.4 information on carbon monoxide poisoning from motorboats; amending
1.5 Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 86B.005, by adding a subdivision; proposing
1.6 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 86B.

1.7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 86B.005, is amended by adding a
1.9 subdivision to read:

1.10 Subd. 8a. Marine-grade carbon monoxide detection device. "Marine-grade
1.11 carbon monoxide detection device" means a device or system that:

- 1.12 (1) detects carbon monoxide on motorboats in a marine environment; and
- 1.13 (2) is intended to alarm at carbon monoxide concentrations below those that could
1.14 cause a loss of ability to react to the dangers of carbon monoxide exposure.

1.15 Sec. 2. [86B.532] CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTION DEVICE
1.16 REQUIREMENTS.

1.17 Subdivision 1. Requirements. (a) No motorboat that is 16 feet in length or longer
1.18 and has an enclosed cabin or similar area below the top deck may be operated on any waters
1.19 of the state unless the motorboat is equipped with a functioning marine-grade carbon
1.20 monoxide detection device affixed within the enclosed cabin or area below the top deck.

1.21 (b) After the effective date of this section, no new motorboat that is 16 feet in length
1.22 or longer and has an enclosed cabin or similar area below the top deck may be sold or
1.23 offered for sale in Minnesota unless the motorboat is equipped with a new functioning

2.1 marine-grade carbon monoxide detection device affixed within the enclosed cabin or
2.2 area below the top deck.

2.3 (c) A marine-grade carbon monoxide detection device used to satisfy the
2.4 requirements of this subdivision must be intended for use on motorboats in a marine
2.5 environment and comply with the most current version of:

2.6 (1) the American National Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon
2.7 Monoxide Alarms (ANSI/UL 2034); and

2.8 (2) the American National Standard for Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors
2.9 (ANSI/UL 2075).

2.10 Subd. 2. **Boating safety courses.** All state-sponsored boating safety courses and all
2.11 boating safety courses that require state approval by the commissioner must incorporate
2.12 information about the dangers of being overcome by carbon monoxide poisoning while on
2.13 or behind a motorboat and how to prevent that poisoning.

2.14 Subd. 3. **Carbon monoxide poisoning warning stickers.** (a) When a new or used
2.15 motorboat that is 16 feet in length or longer and has an enclosed cabin or similar area
2.16 below the top deck is sold in the state, two carbon monoxide poisoning warning stickers
2.17 developed by the commissioner must be placed on the motorboat. The smaller sticker
2.18 must be placed in the interior of the motorboat where the sticker is immediately visible to
2.19 the person operating the motorboat. The larger sticker must be placed facing out on the
2.20 exterior of the stern or transom of the motorboat unless the motorboat is inflatable and
2.21 the sticker would not adhere to the surface of the stern.

2.22 (b) For a motorboat sold by a dealer, the dealer must ensure that both warning
2.23 stickers have been affixed before completion of the transaction.

2.24 (c) For a motorboat sold by an individual, both stickers must be included in the new
2.25 license material provided to the new owner, and the new owner of the motorboat must
2.26 be notified of the requirement to affix the smaller sticker in the interior of the motorboat
2.27 where the sticker is immediately visible to the operator of the motorboat and the larger
2.28 sticker facing out on the exterior of the stern or transom of the motorboat unless the
2.29 motorboat is inflatable and the sticker would not adhere to the surface of the stern.

2.30 (d) A warning sticker developed by the boating manufacturer satisfies the
2.31 requirements of this section if the sticker has been approved by the commissioner of
2.32 natural resources.

2.33 Subd. 4. **License agents; distribution.** The commissioner must provide license
2.34 agents with informational brochures and warning stickers about the dangers of carbon
2.35 monoxide poisoning while boating. A license agent must insert the informational brochure
2.36 and warning stickers into the license renewal materials of motorboat owners for three

3.1 consecutive three-year license cycles and, thereafter, upon the recommendation of the
3.2 commissioner. The materials must instruct motorboat owners with motorboats that are 16
3.3 feet in length or longer and have enclosed cabins or similar areas below the top deck to
3.4 place the two stickers according to subdivision 3.

3.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective May 1, 2017.

3.6 Sec. 3. **CITATION.**

3.7 Sections 1 and 2 may be known and cited as "Sophia's Law."