2015 -- H 5976 SUBSTITUTE A

LC000073/SUB A

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

AN ACT

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, and Canario

Date Introduced: March 25, 2015

Referred To: House Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1	SECTION 1. Title 46 of the General Laws entitled "WATERS AND NAVIGATION" is
2	hereby amended by adding thereto the following chapter:
3	CHAPTER 27.1
4	PROHIBITION OF POWERBOATS ON STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND
5	46-27.1-1. Legislative findings The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:
6	(1) Water is vital to life and comprises an invaluable natural resource which is not to be
7	abused by any segment of the state's population or its economy. It is the policy of this state to
8	restore, enhance, and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of its waters to
9	protect public health;
10	(2) The waters of this state are a critical renewable resource which must be protected to
11	insure the availability of safe and potable drinking water for present and future needs;
12	(3) Stafford Pond in the town of Tiverton is the primary source of potable water for the
13	residents of the town of Tiverton and it is a paramount policy of the state to maintain the quality
14	of the water in Stafford Pond consistent with its use for drinking supplies and other designated
15	beneficial uses; and
16	(4) The objective of this chapter is to insure the effective and efficient conservation and
17	protection of the water supplied by Stafford Pond.
18	46-27.1-2. Certain powerboats prohibited on Stafford Pond As of July 1, 2015, the

- 1 <u>use of powerboats on Stafford Pond in Tiverton, Rhode Island, by persons owning real estate</u>
- 2 abutting Stafford Pond and others using the Rhode Island department of environmental
- 3 management boat ramp on Stafford Pond or any other access point on Stafford Pond, shall be
- 4 <u>limited to powerboats with engines of ten (10) horsepower or less.</u>
- 5 <u>46-27.1-3. Exceptions. -- Law enforcement personnel, authorized rescue personnel, and</u>
- 6 personnel of the Stone Bridge fire district, and owners and operators of the water treatment plant
- 7 on Stafford Pond, while on official business, may utilize powerboats on Stafford Pond,
- 8 notwithstanding the provisions of § 46-27.1-2.
- 9 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

LC000073/SUB A

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

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RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION - STAFFORD POND, TIVERTON, RHODE ISLAND

1	This act would limit the use of powerboats on Stafford Pond in Tiverton, Rhode Island, to
2	those with engines of ten (10) horsepower or less, as of July 1, 2015. That limitation would not
3	apply to law enforcement, rescue and Stone Bridge fire district personnel, as well as the owners
4	and operators of the Stafford Pond water treatment plant.
5	This act would take effect upon passage.
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