

House Bill 172

By: Representatives Lumsden of the 12<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Caldwell of the 131<sup>st</sup>, Tanner of the 9<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to general provisions relative to the registration, operation, and sale of watercraft,  
3 so as to revise the types of vessels that are applicable to the operation of watercraft while  
4 under the influence of alcohol, toxic vapors, or drugs; to provide for definitions; to provide  
5 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
9 general provisions relative to the registration, operation, and sale of watercraft, is amended  
10 by revising subsection (o) of Code Section 52-7-12, relating to the operation of watercraft  
11 while under the influence of alcohol, toxic vapors, or drugs, as follows:

12 "(o) As used in this Code section, the term '~~personal watercraft~~':

13 (1) 'Homemade or inflatable raft' means any platform which floats on the water for  
14 purposes of providing buoyancy to a person and which renders transportation with only  
15 the aid of such person's hands, arms, legs, or feet.

16 (2) 'Personal watercraft' shall have the same meaning as set forth in Code Section  
17 52-7-8.2.

18 (3) 'Vessel' means every description of watercraft, other than a sailboard or homemade  
19 or inflatable raft, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.