

HB 2358 -- MARINE TRANSACTIONS

SPONSOR: Fitzpatrick

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill adds artificial contrivances used or capable of being used as a means of transport on waters to the definition of "vessel." This bill also adds a vessel owner's designated representative to the individuals who may file an application for a vessel number. Additionally, this bill adds specific information that must be provided, including acceptable substitutes, when filing a vessel number application.

This bill requires a vessel owner, or his or her designee, to submit the outboard motor or vessel for inspection if a replacement identification plate has been fastened to the outboard motor or vessel because the original has been destroyed, removed, covered, altered, or defaced. Once the replacement identification and its placement have been inspected, the replacement identification plate will be the lawful number of the outboard motor or vessel for the purpose of identification and registration.

Finally, this bill specifies various vessels that are not required to be titled or numbered. Added to the list are nonmotorized vessels, unless such vessels are boats powered by sails that are more than 12 feet in length.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will conform Missouri statutes on boat registration and identification number displays to U.S. Coast Guard requirements.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fitzpatrick and the Department Of Public Safety.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the bill will preserve several millions of dollars in federal funding by putting state law into compliance with federal law.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri State Highway Patrol.