

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

FILED SENATE
May 19, 2020
S.B. 798
PRINCIPAL CLERK

S

D

SENATE BILL DRS15521-MH-180

Short Title: Lake Norman Skier Safety. (Local)

Sponsors: Senator Sawyer (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE USE OF SKIER DOWN FLAGS ON LAKE NORMAN.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
4 **SECTION 1.** Whenever any person leaves any watercraft, other than a personal
5 watercraft, on the waters of Lake Norman and enters the water between sunrise and sunset, the
6 operator of such watercraft shall display on the watercraft a red or orange flag measuring not less
7 than 12 inches by 12 inches. The provisions of this section shall not apply to a watercraft that is
8 moored or anchored. The flag required by this section shall be visible for 360 degrees around the
9 horizon when displayed and shall be displayed only when an occupant of the watercraft has left
10 the confines of the watercraft and entered the water. The flag required by this section shall not
11 be displayed when the watercraft is engaged in towing any person but shall be displayed when
12 such person has ceased being towed and has reentered the water.
13 **SECTION 2.** No operator shall knowingly operate any watercraft within 50 yards of
14 a flag required by Section 1 of this act at a speed in excess of a no-wake speed.
15 **SECTION 3.** This act is enforceable under G.S. 75A-17 as if it were a provision of
16 Chapter 75A of the General Statutes.
17 **SECTION 4.** Violation of this act is a Class 3 misdemeanor.
18 **SECTION 5.** This act applies only to the waters of Lake Norman in Catawba, Iredell,
19 Lincoln, and Mecklenburg Counties.
20 **SECTION 6.** This act becomes effective April 1, 2021, and applies to offenses
21 occurring on or after that date.



* D R S 1 5 5 2 1 - M H - 1 8 0 *