

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

H.B. 1218  
May 4, 2026  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

H

D

HOUSE BILL DRH10639-MH-135

Short Title: Navigable Waters/Pine Knoll Shores. (Local)

Sponsors: Representative Cairns.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THE TOWN OF PINE KNOLL SHORES WITH THE AUTHORITY  
3 TO PLACE AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND ESTABLISH NO-WAKE ZONES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. The Town of Pine Knoll Shores (Town) is empowered to make, adopt,  
6 and enforce ordinances for the navigable waters of canals and Bogue Sound within the corporate  
7 limit and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the Town concerning the following:

8 (1) Placement and maintenance of channel aids and markers, anchoring aids and  
9 markers, and navigational aids and markers in conformity with the United  
10 States Aids to Navigation System and the rules of the Wildlife Resources  
11 Commission as adopted for use on the waters of North Carolina pursuant to  
12 G.S. 75A-15(c). Before placing such buoys, beacons, or day marks, the Town  
13 Board of Commissioners, by ordinance or resolution, shall identify the  
14 location of the same by use of Global Positioning System ("GPS") coordinates  
15 and notify both the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
16 in writing of the intent to place the devices. Such notice shall be at least six  
17 weeks prior to the placement of any channel aids and markers, anchoring aids  
18 and markers, or navigational aids and markers under the authority granted by  
19 this act.

20 (2) The enactment of no-wake zones. For purposes of this subdivision, "no-wake  
21 zones" are defined as areas where the speed of a vessel is limited to a "no-wake  
22 speed" as defined in G.S. 75A-2. Before designating areas as no-wake zones,  
23 the Town Board of Commissioners, by ordinance or resolution, will identify  
24 the location of such areas by use of GPS coordinates and notify the Wildlife  
25 Resources Commission, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Army Corps of  
26 Engineers in writing of the intent to make the designation. No-wake zones  
27 designated by the Town under this subdivision will be marked with buoys or  
28 markers in the style of no-wake zones marked and placed by the Wildlife  
29 Resources Commission. Notice must be published on the Town's website at  
30 least 10 days prior to the effective date of any ordinance or resolution creating  
31 a no-wake zone under the authority granted by this act.

32 (3) The enforcement of ordinances adopted under the authority of this act in  
33 accordance with G.S. 160A-175.

34 SECTION 2. This act is intended to supersede G.S. 75A-15(a) and (b) within the  
35 town limits of Pine Knoll Shores. In the event of conflict between any local ordinance adopted  
36 under the authority of this act and any other statutes, rules, or regulations of the Wildlife



1 Resources Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality, the United States Coast  
2 Guard, or the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the State or federal rule or regulation shall  
3 supersede and prevail over the local ordinance to the extent of the conflict.

4           **SECTION 3.** Duly sworn law enforcement officers of the Town of Pine Knoll  
5 Shores, the Carteret County Sheriff's Office, and the Wildlife Resources Commission shall have  
6 the authority to enforce any local ordinances adopted under the authority of this act.

7           **SECTION 4.** This act applies only to the Town of Pine Knoll Shores.

8           **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.