

**As Reported by the Senate Energy, Natural Resources and
Environment Committee**

**124th General Assembly
Regular Session
2001-2002**

S. B. No. 80

SENATOR Harris

A B I L L

To amend section 1547.08 of the Revised Code to limit
the prohibition against operating a vessel at
greater than idle speed or at a speed that creates
a wake within three hundred feet of certain dock
and harbor areas to vessels operating on Lake Erie
or the Ohio River.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 1547.08 of the Revised Code be
amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1547.08. (A) No person shall operate a vessel within or
through a designated bathing area or within or through any area
that has been buoyed off designating it as an area in which
vessels are prohibited.

(B)(1) No person shall operate a vessel at greater than idle
speed or at a speed that creates a wake ~~within~~ under any of the
following circumstances:

(a) Within three hundred feet of any marina, boat docking
facility, boat gasoline dock, launch ramp, recreational boat
harbor, or harbor entrance, ~~or during~~ on Lake Erie or on the Ohio
river;

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(b) During the period from sunset to sunrise according to 20
local time within any water between the Dan Beard bridge and the 21
Brent Spence bridge on the Ohio river for any vessel not 22
documented by the United States coast guard as commercial, ~~or~~ 23
~~within;~~ 24

(c) Within any area buoyed or marked as a no wake area on the 25
waters in this state. 26

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply in any 27
either of the following places: 28

(a) ~~The Muskingum river unless the river is marked by a buoy~~ 29
~~or sign as a no wake or idle speed area;~~ 30

(b) ~~Any other~~ An area designated by the chief of the division 31
of watercraft unless it is marked by a buoy or sign as a no wake 32
or idle speed area; 33

~~(c)~~(b) Within any water between the Dan Beard bridge and the 34
Brent Spence bridge on the Ohio river when the United States coast 35
guard has authorized the holding of a special event of a community 36
nature on that water. 37

(C) No person shall operate a vessel in any area of 38
restricted or controlled operation in violation of the designated 39
restriction. 40

(D) No person shall operate a vessel within three hundred 41
feet of an official diver's flag unless the person is tendering 42
the diving operation. 43

(E) All areas of restricted or controlled operation as 44
described in division (A) of this section or as provided for in 45
section 1547.14 or 1547.61 of the Revised Code shall be marked by 46
a buoy or sign designating the restriction. All waters surrounded 47
by or lying between such a buoy or sign and the closest shoreline 48
are thereby designated as an area in which the designated 49

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restrictions shall apply in the operation of any vessel.

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Markings on buoys designating areas of restricted or controlled operation shall be so spaced as to show all around the horizon. Lineal spacing between the buoys shall be such that under normal conditions of visibility any buoy shall be readily visible from the next adjacent buoy. No colors or symbols, except as provided for in rules of the chief, shall be used on buoys or signs for marking closed or controlled areas of boating waters.

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Any state department, conservancy district, or political subdivision having jurisdiction and control of impounded boating waters may place such buoys or signs on its waters. Any political subdivision may apply to the chief for permission to place such buoys or signs on other waters within its territorial limits. No person shall place or cause to be placed a regulatory buoy or sign on, into, or along the waters in this state unless the person has complied with all the provisions of this chapter.

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(F) No person shall permit any vessel to be operated on the waters in this state in violation of this section.

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Section 2. That existing section 1547.08 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

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