

HR0061 LRB103 30603 LAW 57043 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, For over 100 million Americans, boating continues 2 3 to be a popular recreational activity; from coast to coast, 4 and everywhere in between, people are enjoying time together boating, sailing, paddling, and fishing; and 5 6 WHEREAS, Safe boating begins with preparation; the U.S. 7 Coast Guard estimates that human error accounts for most 8 boating accidents and that life jackets could prevent nearly 9 83% of boating fatalities; and 10 On average, 650 people die each year WHEREAS, boating-related accidents in the U.S., with 75% of these 11 12 accidents resulting in fatalities caused by drowning; and 13 WHEREAS, The vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, 14 or environmental factors; and 15 WHEREAS, A significant number of boaters who lose their 16 17 lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jacket; and 18 19 WHEREAS, Basic boating safety procedures, such as carrying

lifesaving emergency distress and communications equipment,

- 1 wearing life jackets, attending safe boating courses,
- 2 participating in free boat safety checks, and staying sober
- 3 when navigating, can help ensure boaters on America's coastal,
- 4 inland, and offshore waters stay safe throughout the season;
- 5 therefore, be it
- 6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 7 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 8 we declare May 20 through May 26, 2023 as Safe Boating Week in
- 9 the State of Illinois; and be it further
- 10 RESOLVED, That we urge all those who boat to practice safe
- 11 boating habits and wear a life jacket at all times while
- 12 boating; and be it further
- 13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 14 presented to the National Safe Boating Council as a symbol of
- our respect and esteem.