

1-1 By: Larson (Senate Sponsor - Campbell) H.B. No. 337
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 27, 2019;
 1-3 April 1, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Water &
 1-4 Rural Affairs; April 25, 2019, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 25, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the use of emergency engine cutoff switches on
 1-18 motorboats.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 31, Parks and Wildlife
 1-21 Code, is amended by adding Section 31.1071 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 31.1071. OPERATION OF MOTORBOAT WITH EMERGENCY ENGINE
 1-23 CUTOFF SWITCH. (a) In this section, "engine cutoff switch" means
 1-24 an emergency switch installed on a motorboat that:

1-25 (1) is designed to shut off the engine if:
 1-26 (A) the motorboat operator using a lanyard
 1-27 attachment activates the switch by falling overboard or otherwise
 1-28 moving beyond the length of the lanyard; or

1-29 (B) the motorboat operator or a passenger using a
 1-30 wireless attachment activates the switch by falling overboard and
 1-31 submerging a man-overboard transmitter; and

1-32 (2) attaches:
 1-33 (A) physically to the motorboat operator through
 1-34 the use of a lanyard worn by the operator; or
 1-35 (B) wirelessly through the use of a
 1-36 water-activated man-overboard transmitter worn by the motorboat
 1-37 operator or any similarly equipped passenger on the motorboat.

1-38 (b) A motorboat operator may not operate a motorboat less
 1-39 than 26 feet in length and equipped by the manufacturer with an
 1-40 engine cutoff switch while the engine is running and the motorboat
 1-41 is underway without first verifying that the switch is operational
 1-42 and fully functional and:

1-43 (1) if using a lanyard attachment, properly attaching
 1-44 the lanyard, as appropriate for the specific motorboat, to the
 1-45 operator's body or to the clothing or personal flotation device
 1-46 being worn by the operator; or

1-47 (2) if using a wireless attachment, properly attaching
 1-48 to each individual on the motorboat an operational man-overboard
 1-49 transmitter.

1-50 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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