

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.

Representative Griffitts offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 327.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.45 Protection zones for springs.—

(2) The commission may establish by rule protection zones that restrict the speed and operation of vessels, or that prohibit or modify the allowable means of anchoring, mooring, beaching, or grounding ~~of~~ vessels, to protect and prevent significant harm to first, second, and third magnitude springs and springs groups, including their associated spring runs, as

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14 determined by the commission using the most recent Florida
15 Geological Survey springs bulletin. Significant ~~This~~ harm
16 includes negative impacts to water quality, water quantity,
17 hydrology, wetlands, and aquatic and wetland-dependent species
18 where the operation, anchoring, mooring, beaching, or grounding
19 of vessels is determined to be the predominant cause of negative
20 impacts.

21 **Section 2. Section 327.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to**
22 **read:**

23 327.56 Safety and marine sanitation equipment inspections;
24 probable cause; qualified.-

25 (1) An ~~No~~ officer may not ~~shall~~ board any vessel or
26 perform a vessel stop in this state unless ~~to make a safety or~~
27 ~~marine sanitation equipment inspection if the owner or operator~~
28 ~~is not aboard. When the owner or operator is aboard, an officer~~
29 ~~may board a vessel with consent or when~~ the officer has probable
30 cause ~~or knowledge~~ to believe that a violation of a provision of
31 this chapter has occurred or is occurring.

32 (2) An officer may not perform a vessel stop or board a
33 vessel for the sole purpose of performing a safety or marine
34 sanitation equipment inspection. A violation of safety or marine
35 sanitation equipment requirements is a secondary offense, rather
36 than a primary offense ~~An officer may board a vessel when the~~
37 ~~operator refuses or is unable to display the safety or marine~~
38 ~~sanitation equipment required by law, if requested to do so by a~~

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39 ~~law enforcement officer, or when the safety or marine sanitation~~
40 ~~equipment to be inspected is permanently installed and is not~~
41 ~~visible for inspection unless the officer boards the vessel.~~

42 ~~(2) Inspection of floating structures for compliance with~~
43 ~~this section shall be as provided in s. 403.091.~~

44 **Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 327.70, Florida**
45 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

46 327.70 Enforcement of this chapter and chapter 328.—

47 (2) (a) 1. The commission, in coordination with the
48 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, shall create a
49 "Florida Freedom Boater" safety inspection decal for issue at
50 the time of registration or renewal, signifying that the vessel
51 is deemed to have met the safety equipment carriage and use
52 requirements of this chapter. Upon demonstrated compliance with
53 the safety equipment carriage and use requirements of this
54 chapter at the time of registration or renewal ~~during a safety~~
55 ~~inspection initiated by a law enforcement officer,~~ the operator
56 of a vessel shall be issued a "Florida Freedom Boater" safety
57 inspection decal ~~signifying that the vessel is deemed to have~~
58 ~~met the safety equipment carriage and use requirements of this~~
59 ~~chapter at the time and location of such inspection.~~ The
60 commission may designate by rule the timeframe for expiration
61 of, and the specific design for, the "Florida Freedom Boater"
62 safety inspection decal. However, a decal may not be valid for
63 less than 1 calendar year or more than 5 years at the time of

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64 issue and, at a minimum, must meet the standards specified in
65 this paragraph. ~~All decals issued by the commission on or before~~
66 ~~December 31, 2018, are no longer valid after that date.~~

67 2. The "Florida Freedom Boater" safety inspection decal,
68 ~~if displayed,~~ must be located within 6 inches of the inspected
69 vessel's properly displayed vessel registration decal. For
70 nonmotorized vessels that are not required to be registered, the
71 "Florida Freedom Boater" safety inspection decal,~~if displayed,~~
72 must be located above the waterline on the forward half of the
73 port side of the vessel.

74 (b) ~~If a vessel properly displays a valid safety~~
75 ~~inspection decal created or approved by the division, a law~~
76 ~~enforcement officer may not stop the vessel for the sole purpose~~
77 ~~of inspecting the vessel for compliance with the safety~~
78 ~~equipment carriage and use requirements of this chapter unless~~
79 ~~there is reasonable suspicion that a violation of a safety~~
80 ~~equipment carriage or use requirement has occurred or is~~
81 ~~occurring.~~ This subsection does not restrict a law enforcement
82 officer from stopping a vessel for any other lawful purpose when
83 the officer has probable cause to believe that a violation of
84 this chapter has occurred or is occurring.

85 **Section 4. Section 327.75, Florida Statutes, is created to**
86 **read:**

87 327.75 Watercraft Energy Source Freedom Act.—

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88 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the
89 "Watercraft Energy Source Freedom Act."

90 (2) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section, the
91 term:

92 (a) "Energy source" means any source of energy used to
93 power a watercraft, including, but not limited to, gasoline,
94 diesel fuel, electricity, hydrogen, and solar power.

95 (b) "Watercraft" means any vessel or craft designed for
96 navigation on water, including boats and personal watercraft.

97 (3) PROHIBITION ON RESTRICTIONS BASED ON ENERGY SOURCE.—
98 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a state agency,
99 municipality, governmental entity, or county may not restrict
100 the use or sale of a watercraft based on the energy source used
101 to power the watercraft, including an energy source used for
102 propulsion or used for powering other functions of the
103 watercraft.

104 **Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 379.226, Florida**
105 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

106 379.226 Florida Territorial Waters Act; alien-owned
107 commercial fishing vessels; prohibited acts; enforcement.—

108 (3) No license shall be issued by the Fish and Wildlife
109 Conservation Commission under s. 379.361~~7~~ to any vessel owned in
110 whole or in part by any alien power, ~~which subscribes to the~~
111 ~~doctrine of international communism, or any subject or national~~
112 ~~thereof, who subscribes to the doctrine of international~~

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113 ~~communism, or any individual who subscribes to the doctrine of~~
 114 ~~international communism, or who shall have signed a treaty of~~
 115 ~~trade, friendship and alliance or a nonaggression pact with any~~
 116 ~~communist power. The commission shall grant or withhold said~~
 117 ~~licenses where other alien vessels are involved on the basis of~~
 118 ~~reciprocity and retorsion, unless the nation concerned shall be~~
 119 ~~designated as a friendly ally or neutral by a formal suggestion~~
 120 ~~transmitted to the Governor of Florida by the Secretary of State~~
 121 ~~of the United States. Upon the receipt of such suggestion~~
 122 ~~licenses shall be granted under s. 379.361, without regard to~~
 123 ~~reciprocity and retorsion, to vessels of such nations.~~

124 **Section 6.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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 126
 127 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

128 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

129 A bill to be entitled

130 An act relating to vessels; amending s. 327.45, F.S.;

131 specifying that the Fish and Wildlife Conservation

132 Commission's authorization to establish protection

133 zones includes modifying the allowable means of

134 certain vessel positioning to prevent significant harm

135 to certain springs; revising what constitutes

136 significant harm; amending s. 327.56, F.S.;

137 prohibiting an officer from performing a vessel stop

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138 or boarding a vessel without probable cause;
139 prohibiting an officer from performing a vessel stop
140 or boarding a vessel under certain circumstances;
141 providing that a violation of safety or marine
142 sanitation equipment requirements is a secondary
143 rather than a primary offense; amending s. 327.70,
144 F.S.; requiring the commission, in coordination with
145 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles,
146 to create the "Florida Freedom Boater" safety
147 inspection decal for specified purposes; providing for
148 the award of such decal; providing requirements for
149 such decal; authorizing an officer to stop a vessel
150 for a lawful purpose when the officer has probable
151 cause or knowledge to believe a violation of certain
152 provisions has occurred or is occurring; creating s.
153 327.75, F.S.; providing a short title; defining the
154 terms "energy source" and "watercraft"; prohibiting
155 specified entities from restricting the use or sale of
156 watercraft based on the energy source used by such
157 watercraft; amending s. 379.226, F.S.; revising
158 provisions prohibiting the issuance of a license to a
159 vessel owned by certain alien powers; providing an
160 effective date.

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