

By: Representative Robinson (84th)

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 932

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-87, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE
3 OPERATION OF MOTORBOATS WHILE TOWING A PERSON ON WATER SKIS, AN
4 AQUAPLANE OR SIMILAR DEVICE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 59-21-87, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 59-21-87. (1) No person shall operate a motorboat on any
9 waters of this state while towing a person on water skis, or on an
10 aquaplane or similar device between one hour after sunset and one
11 hour before sunrise.

12 (2) Each person being towed behind a vessel on water skis or
13 similar devices must wear a properly secured Type 1, II, III or V
14 U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device.

15 (3) Every vessel except personal watercraft, towing a person
16 on water skis or similar device must have:

17 (a) A capable observer, other than the operator, ten
18 (10) years old or older; or

19 (b) A wide-angle rearview mirror at least seventy-eight
20 (78) square inches in size and having a field of vision of at
21 least one hundred seventy (170) degrees.

22 (4) Every personal watercraft towing a person on water skis
23 or a similar device must have mirrors mounted on both the right
24 and left sides of the personal watercraft, but not attached to the
25 steering control, and the mirrors must be at least two and
26 one-half (2-1/2) inches high by four (4) inches wide.

27 (5) A reasonable distance from other vessels, people and
28 property must be maintained so as not to endanger life or

29 property. It is illegal to tow a person on water skis or similar
30 devices behind a vessel or to manipulate the water skis or similar
31 devices in a manner that causes the towed person to collide with
32 another person or object.

33 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
34 and after July 1, 2006.