

House Bill 1145

By: Representatives Teague of the 58<sup>th</sup>, Mobley of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Brooks of the 54<sup>th</sup>, Anderson of the 116<sup>th</sup> and Mangham of the 75<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the  
2 "Georgia Boat Safety Act," so as to provide that the Board of Natural Resources shall  
3 provide for permits pursuant to which certain athletes may mark courses for training in  
4 certain water sports; to provide requirements for such permits; to provide for a fee; to provide  
5 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Georgia  
9 Boat Safety Act," is amended by inserting immediately following Code Section 52-7-23 a  
10 new Code section to read as follows:

11 "52-7-23.1.

12 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Athlete' means an athlete licensed by a national or international amateur or  
14 professional sanctioning body for a specialized boating sport.

15 (2) 'Specialized boating sport' means any competitive sport in which an athlete uses a  
16 boat, canoe, kayak, racing shell, or other vessel, waterskis, or a wakeboard.

17 (b) The Board of Natural Resources is authorized and directed to promulgate rules and  
18 regulations pursuant to which a person may obtain a permit to mark off a course by the use  
19 of temporary buoys or other markers for use by athletes training for or participating in a  
20 specialized boating sport on the waters of the state. Such permits shall be issued on a  
21 seasonal or daily basis. The application shall provide the name of each person using the  
22 course and shall show that the proposed course is not in a thoroughfare or navigational  
23 channel and would not present a danger or significant inconvenience to the public. The  
24 board may provide for a permit fee not to exceed \$25.00 per day or \$200.00 per season."

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**SECTION 2.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.