

House Bill 444 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representative Channell of the 77<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 52-7-13 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 boating safety zones, restrictions on use of motors and operation of houseboats on certain  
3 lakes, and exceptions, so as to prohibit operation of certain vessels on Lake Oconee; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 52-7-13 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to boating safety  
8 zones, restrictions on use of motors and operation of houseboats on certain lakes, and  
9 exceptions, is amended by striking subsection (g) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

10 "(g) The operation of any of the following vessels on Lake Oconee shall be prohibited:

11 (1) Any motorized vessel greater than 30 feet six inches in length; except for law  
12 enforcement, scientific research, or dam operation and maintenance craft or a vessel not  
13 greater than 40 feet in length used for conducting group tours on behalf of the owner or  
14 operator of a REAP certified by the Department of Community Affairs under Code  
15 Section 50-8-192; or

16 (2) Any vessel equipped with any type of bypass mechanism that reduces or eliminates  
17 the effectiveness of the muffler or baffler system required by Code Section 52-7-10.

18 (h) The provisions of this Code section shall not apply to vessels engaged in any activity  
19 authorized under Code Section 52-7-19."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.