

House Bill 510

By: Representatives Channell of the 116th and Parrish of the 156th

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 change certain provisions relating to prohibitions against
4 operation of certain vessels on Lake Oconee; to provide an effective date; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 52-7-13 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to boating safety
9 zones, restrictions on use of motors and operation of houseboats on certain lakes, and
10 exceptions, is amended by revising subsection (g) as follows:

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

12 (1) Any motorized vessel greater than 30 feet six inches in length; ~~except for provided,~~
13 however, that this paragraph shall not apply to:

14 (A) Law law enforcement, scientific research, or dam operation and maintenance craft
15 or a; or

16 (B) A vessel not greater than 40 feet in length used for conducting group tours on
17 behalf of the owner or operator of a REAP certified by the Department of Community
18 Affairs under Code Section 50-8-192 if the same vessel was lawfully operated on the
19 lake by such REAP owner or operator under former provisions of this paragraph as
20 such existed immediately prior to the effective date of this subparagraph; in addition,
21 such vessel may be replaced by the same REAP owner or operator but only by one
22 vessel at a time and only if each such predecessor vessel has been retired from lawfully
23 operating on the lake and the replacement vessel does not exceed 40 feet in length, 10
24 feet in width, and 14 feet in height above the bottom of the boat; or

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

1 **SECTION 2.**

2 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
3 without such approval.

4 **SECTION 3.**

5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.