

Senate Bill 72

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Jackson of the 24th, Tolleson of the 20th, Butterworth of the 50th and Douglas of the 17th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To provide dates certain for purposes of establishing criminal violations of rules and
2 regulations relating to matters under the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Resources Division of
3 the Department of Natural Resources; to amend Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the Official Code
4 of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish generally, so as to change certain provisions
5 relating to rules and regulations of the Board of Natural Resources used to establish game
6 and fish criminal violations; to amend Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia
7 Annotated, relating to registration, operation, and sale of watercraft, so as to change certain
8 provisions relating to penalty for violations relative to registration, operation, and sale of
9 watercraft generally; to change certain provisions relating to penalty for violations relative
10 to displaying of watercraft information; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting
11 laws; and for other purposes.

12 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

13 **SECTION 1.**

14 Chapter 1 of Title 27 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to game and fish
15 generally, is amended by revising Code Section 27-1-39, relating to rules and regulations of
16 the Board of Natural Resources used to establish game and fish criminal violations, as
17 follows:

18 "27-1-39.

19 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, for purposes of establishing criminal
20 violations of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources as
21 provided in this title, the term 'rules and regulations' shall mean those rules and regulations
22 of the Board of Natural Resources in force and effect on January 1, ~~2008~~ 2009."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 Chapter 7 of Title 52 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration,
25 operation, and sale of watercraft, is amended by revising Code Section 52-7-26, relating to

26 penalty for violations relative to registration, operation, and sale of watercraft generally, as
27 follows:

28 "52-7-26.

29 Except as otherwise provided in this article, any person who violates this article or any rule
30 or regulation promulgated hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. For purposes of
31 establishing criminal violations of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of
32 Natural Resources as provided in this article, the term 'rules and regulations' shall mean
33 those rules and regulations of the Board of Natural Resources in force and effect on
34 January 1, 2009."

35 **SECTION 3.**

36 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 52-7-51, relating
37 to penalty for violations relative to displaying of watercraft information, as follows:

38 "(a) Any person who violates this article or any rules and regulations issued hereunder
39 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. For purposes of establishing criminal violations of the
40 rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources as provided in this
41 article, the term 'rules and regulations' shall mean those rules and regulations of the Board
42 of Natural Resources in force and effect on January 1, 2009."

43 **SECTION 4.**

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

46 **SECTION 5.**

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