

House Bill 212

By: Representative Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 52-7-10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 exhaust muffling and noise levels of watercraft, so as to impose engine noise level  
3 limitations; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 52-7-10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exhaust  
7 muffling and noise levels of watercraft, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

8 "(a) The exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on any vessel, excluding those  
9 vessels documented by the United States Coast Guard and licensed pursuant to Code  
10 Section 27-2-8, shall be muffled or baffled and water injected, except those engines that  
11 exhaust through the lower unit or outdrive when the vessel is on plane, so as to decrease  
12 noise levels to no more than 90 decibels measured at a distance of 50 feet. Vessels  
13 competing in regattas or boat races approved under the provisions of Code Section 52-7-19  
14 may be exempt from such provisions."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.