

HOUSE BILL 25

IN THE HOUSE

January 4, 1979

Introduced and referred to  
Committee on Fish and Game.

January 6, 1979

On motion, joint rule 6-6  
suspended and sponsor's  
signature allowed to be added  
to prefiled bills.

1                    HOUSE BILL NO. 25  
 2 INTRODUCTION BY \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
 4  
 5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION  
 6 23-2-512, MCA, TO INCREASE THE FEE FOR MOTORBOAT DECALS FROM  
 7 \$1 TO \$5."  
 8  
 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:  
 10        Section 1. Section 23-2-512, MCA, is amended to read:  
 11        "23-2-512. Identification number. (1) The owner of  
 12 each motorboat requiring numbering by this state shall file  
 13 an application for number in the office of the county  
 14 treasurer where the motorboat is owned or taxable on forms  
 15 prepared and furnished by the division of motor vehicles.  
 16 The application shall be signed by the owner of the  
 17 motorboat and shall be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$1~~ \$5. Any  
 18 alteration, change, or false statement contained in the  
 19 application will render the certificate of number void. Upon  
 20 receipt of the application in approved form, the county  
 21 treasurer shall issue to the applicant a certificate of  
 22 number prepared and furnished by the division of motor  
 23 vehicles, stating the number awarded to the motorboat and  
 24 the name and address of the owner.  
 25        (2) Before filing the application with the county

1 treasurer, the applicant shall submit it to the county  
 2 assessor, who shall enter on the application, in a space to  
 3 be provided for that purpose, the market value and taxable  
 4 value of the motorboat for the year for which the  
 5 application for registration is made.  
 6        (3) The applicant, upon the filing of the application,  
 7 shall pay to the county treasurer the registration fee and  
 8 the personal property taxes assessed against the motorboat  
 9 or vessel for the current year of registration before the  
 10 application for registration or reregistration may be  
 11 accepted by the county treasurer.  
 12        (4) Should the ownership of a motorboat change, a new  
 13 application form with fee shall be filed within a reasonable  
 14 time with the county treasurer and a new certificate of  
 15 number awarded in the same manner as provided for in an  
 16 original award of number.  
 17        (5) If an agency of the United States government has  
 18 in force a comprehensive system of identification numbering  
 19 for motorboats in the United States, the numbering system  
 20 employed pursuant to this part by the division of motor  
 21 vehicles shall be in conformity.  
 22        (6) Every certificate of number and the license decals  
 23 awarded under this part shall continue in effect for a  
 24 period not to exceed 1 year unless sooner terminated or  
 25 discontinued in accordance with the provisions of this part.

1 Certificates of number and license decals shall show the  
 2 date of expiration and may be renewed by the owner in the  
 3 same manner provided for in the initial securing of the  
 4 certificate.

5 (7) Certificates of number shall expire on April 30 of  
 6 each year and may not be in effect unless renewed under this  
 7 part.

8 (8) In event of transfer of ownership, the purchaser  
 9 shall furnish the county treasurer notice within a  
 10 reasonable time of the acquisition of all or any part of his  
 11 interest, other than the creation of a security interest, in  
 12 a motorboat numbered in this state or of the loss, theft,  
 13 destruction, or abandonment of the motorboat. The transfer,  
 14 loss, theft, destruction, or abandonment terminates the  
 15 certificate of number for the motorboat. Recovery from theft  
 16 or transfer of a part interest that does not affect the  
 17 owner's right to operate the motorboat does not terminate  
 18 the certificate of number.

19 (9) A holder of a certificate of number shall notify  
 20 the county treasurer within reasonable time if his address  
 21 no longer conforms to the address appearing on the  
 22 certificate and furnish the county treasurer with his new  
 23 address. The division of motor vehicles may provide by rule  
 24 for the surrender of the certificate bearing the former  
 25 address and its replacement with a certificate bearing the

1 new address or the alteration of an outstanding certificate  
 2 to show the new address of the holder.

3 (10) (a) The number awarded must be painted on or  
 4 attached to each outboard side of the forward half of the  
 5 motorboat or, if there are no such sides, at a corresponding  
 6 location on both outboard sides of the foredeck of the  
 7 motorboat. The number awarded shall read from left to right,  
 8 be in Arabic numerals, in block characters of good  
 9 proportion at least 3 inches tall excluding border or trim,  
 10 of a color that contrasts with the color of the background,  
 11 and be so maintained as to be clearly visible and legible.  
 12 The number may not be placed on the obscured underside of  
 13 the flared bow where it cannot be easily seen from another  
 14 vessel or ashore. No numerals, letters, or devices, other  
 15 than those used in connection with the identifying number  
 16 issued, may be placed in the proximity of the identifying  
 17 number. No numerals, letters, or devices which might  
 18 interfere with the ready identification of the motorboat by  
 19 its identifying number may be carried as to interfere with  
 20 the motorboat's identification. No number other than the  
 21 number and license decal awarded to a motorboat or granted  
 22 reciprocity under this part shall be painted, attached, or  
 23 otherwise displayed on either side of the forward half of  
 24 the motorboat.

25 (b) The certificate of number shall be pocket size and

1 available to federal, state, or local law enforcement  
2 officers at all reasonable times for inspection on the  
3 motorboat whenever the motorboat is on waters of this state.

4 (c) Boat liveries are not required to have the  
5 certificate of number on board each motorboat, but a rental  
6 agreement must be carried on board livery motorboats in  
7 place of the certificate of number.

8 (11) Fees collected under this section shall be  
9 transmitted to the state treasurer who shall deposit the  
10 fees in the motorboat certificate identification account of  
11 an earmarked revenue fund. These fees shall be used only for  
12 the administration and enforcement of this part, as amended.

13 (12) An owner of a motorboat must within a reasonable  
14 time notify the division of motor vehicles, giving the  
15 motorboat's identifying number and the owner's name when  
16 that motorboat becomes documented as a vessel of the United  
17 States or is transferred, lost, destroyed, abandoned, or  
18 frauded or within 60 days after change of state of principal  
19 use."

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