HB 2077 Boat Rental (Livery) Businesses
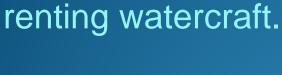

Larry Warren, Director

HB 2077

Requires boat rental businesses to register with the Marine Board to create a conduit for sharing boating safety and equipment information to the public renting watercraft.

Background

Boat rental businesses have grown in Oregon and under the current law, boat rental businesses (called liveries) are required to properly equip each boat with safety equipment (depending on the boat length and type of propulsion, equipment varies) and to maintain rental records for six months. Each year there are serious accidents and fatalities involving rented boats.

Background

Currently, business (livery) registration is voluntary and if the business owner registers, they receive a discount on certain fees. Liveries introduce a large number of people to recreational boating; however, the Marine Board does not have a formal relationship with these businesses. This bill would require boat liveries to register with the Marine Board to create a two-way communication mechanism and to provide them with information on boating regulations and safety education that they can pass along to their renters.

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- Require boat rental businesses to register with the Marine Board. Rental businesses would provide basic information such as their business name, contact information, location and the number and types of boats they rent.

- This information would be used for targeted outreach and education to be passed on to rental customers. Failure to register would be a Class B violation ($265 fine).

Stand Up Paddleboard renters from Bend. Life jackets and whistles are required equipment and must be "readily accessible."

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- No new fees proposed for participating in the livery program.

- To receive a discount on motorboat registrations, liveries currently pay $90 every two years plus $15 per boat (which includes $5 aquatic invasive species prevention program fee). Liveries renting non-motorized boats receive a discount for the aquatic invasive species permits.

Questions