1	MOTORBOAT LIABILITY INSURANCE
2	AMENDMENTS
3	2006 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Chief Sponsor: Kerry W. Gibson
6	Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble
7 8	LONG TITLE
9	General Description:
10	This bill modifies the Insurance Code, the State Boating Act, and the Financial
11	Responsibility of Personal Watercraft Owners and Operators Act by amending
12	provisions related to motorboat insurance.
13	Highlighted Provisions:
14	This bill:
15	 defines motorboat and includes personal watercraft in the definition of motorboat;
16	 requires that each resident owner and certain nonresident owners of a motorboat
17	shall maintain owner's or operator's security if the motorboat is operated on the
18	waters of the state;
19	 provides that it is a class B misdemeanor to operate a motorboat on the waters of the
20	state without certain owner's or operator's security being in effect;
21	 requires a person operating a motorboat to carry evidence of owner's or operator's
22	security for the motorboat and display it upon demand of a peace officer;
23	 provides certain requirements for a certificate of self-funded coverage for
24	motorboats;
25	 provides certain requirements for claims adjustment for persons who maintain
26	motorboat owner's or operator's security by means other than an insurance policy;
27	 provides requirements for a liability insurance policy purchased to satisfy the



28	owner's or operator's security requirement for motorboats;
29	 provides minimum limits for a motorboat liability coverage policy; and
30	 makes technical changes.
31	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
32	None
33	Other Special Clauses:
34	None
35	Utah Code Sections Affected:
36	AMENDS:
37	31A-22-315, as last amended by Chapter 90, Laws of Utah 2004
38	31A-22-1501 , as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
39	31A-22-1502 , as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
40	31A-22-1503 , as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
41	31A-22-1504 , as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
42	73-18-13.5, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
43	73-18c-101, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
44	73-18c-102, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
45	73-18c-301, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
46	73-18c-302, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
47	73-18c-303, as enacted by Chapter 348, Laws of Utah 1997
48	73-18c-304, as last amended by Chapter 298, Laws of Utah 2003
49	73-18c-306, as last amended by Chapter 102, Laws of Utah 2005
50	73-18c-307, as last amended by Chapter 90, Laws of Utah 2004
51	
52	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
53	Section 1. Section 31A-22-315 is amended to read:
54	31A-22-315. Motor vehicle insurance reporting Penalty.
55	(1) (a) Each insurer that issues a policy that includes motor vehicle liability coverage,
56	uninsured motorist coverage, underinsured motorist coverage, or personal injury coverage
57	under this part shall before the seventh day of each calendar month provide to the Department
58	of Public Safety's designated agent selected in accordance with Title 41, Chapter 12a, Part 8,

59	Uninsured Motorist Identification Database Program, a record of each motor vehicle insurance
60	policy in effect for vehicles registered or garaged in Utah as of the previous month that was
61	issued by the insurer.
62	(b) This Subsection (1) does not preclude more frequent reporting.
63	(2) The record shall include:
64	(a) the name, date of birth, and driver license number, if the insured provides a driver
65	license number to the insurer, of each insured owner or operator, and the address of the named
66	insured;
67	(b) the make, year, and vehicle identification number of each insured vehicle; and
68	(c) the policy number, effective date, and expiration date of each policy.
69	(3) Each insurer shall provide this information [on magnetic tape or in] by an electronic
70	means or by another form the Department of Public Safety's designated agent agrees to accept.
71	(4) (a) The commissioner may, following procedures set forth in Title 63, Chapter 46b,
72	Administrative Procedures Act, assess a fine against an insurer of up to \$250 for each day the
73	insurer fails to comply with this section.
74	(b) If an insurer shows that the failure to comply with this section was inadvertent,
75	accidental, or the result of excusable neglect, the commissioner shall excuse the fine.
76	Section 2. Section 31A-22-1501 is amended to read:
77	Part 15. Liability Insurance for Motorboats
78	31A-22-1501. Definitions.
79	As used in this part:
80	(1) "Motorboat" has the same meaning as defined under Section 73-18c-102.
81	[(4) "Personal watercraft] (2) "Motorboat business" means a [personal watercraft]
82	motorboat sales agency, repair shop, service station, storage garage, or public marina.
83	[(1)] (3) "Operator" has the same meaning as under Section 73-18c-102.
84	$\left[\frac{(2)}{(4)}\right]$ "Owner" has the same meaning as under Section 73-18c-102.
85	[(3) "Personal watercraft" has the same meaning as under Section 73-18-2.]
86	(5) "Rental company" means any person or organization in the business of providing
87	[personal watercraft] motorboats to the public.
88	(6) "Renter" means any person or organization obtaining the use of a [personal
89	watercraft motorboat from a rental company under the terms of a rental agreement.

90 Section 3. Section 31A-22-1502 is amended to read: 91 31A-22-1502. Motorboat liability coverage. 92 (1) A liability insurance policy purchased to satisfy the owner's or operator's security 93 requirement of Section 73-18c-301 shall: 94 (a) name the [personal watercraft] motorboat owner or operator in whose name the 95 policy was purchased, state that named insured's address, the coverage afforded, the premium 96 charged, the policy period, and the limits of liability; 97 (b) (i) if it is an owner's policy: 98 (A) designate by appropriate reference each [personal watercraft] motorboat on which 99 coverage is granted; 100 (B) insure the person named in the policy: 101 (C) insure any other person using any named [personal watercraft] motorboat with the 102 express or implied permission of the named insured; and 103 (D) except as provided in Subsection (7), insure any person included in Subsection 104 (1)(c) against loss from the liability imposed by law for damages arising out of the ownership, 105 maintenance, or use of the named [personal watercraft] motorboat within the United States and 106 Canada, subject to limits exclusive of interest and costs, for each [personal watercraft] 107 motorboat, in amounts not less than the minimum limits specified under Section 31A-22-1503; 108 or 109 (ii) if it is an operator's policy, insure the person named as insured against loss from the liability imposed upon him or her by law for damages arising out of the insured's use of any 110 111 [personal watercraft] motorboat not owned by the insured, within the same territorial limits and 112 with the same limits of liability as in an owner's policy under Subsection (1)(b)(i); and 113 (c) except as provided in Subsection (7), insure persons related to the named insured by 114 blood, marriage, adoption, or guardianship who are residents of the named insured's household, 115 including those who usually make their home in the same household but temporarily live 116 elsewhere, to the same extent as the named insured. 117 (2) A liability insurance policy covering [personal watercraft] a motorboat may: 118 (a) provide for the prorating of the insurance under that policy with other valid and 119 collectible insurance;

(b) grant any lawful coverage in addition to the required [personal watercraft]

121 <u>motorboat</u> liability coverage;

(c) if the policy is issued to a person other than a [personal watercraft] motorboat business, limit the coverage afforded to a [personal watercraft] motorboat business or its officers, agents, or employees to the minimum limits under Section 31A-22-1503, and to those instances when there is no other valid and collectible insurance with at least those limits, whether the other insurance is primary, excess, or contingent; and

- (d) if issued to a [personal watercraft] motorboat business, restrict coverage afforded to anyone other than the [personal watercraft] motorboat business or its officers, agents, or employees to the minimum limits under Section 31A-22-1503, and to those instances when there is no other valid and collectible insurance with at least those limits, whether the other insurance is primary, excess, or contingent.
 - (3) [Personal watercraft] Motorboat liability coverage need not insure any liability:
 - (a) under any workers' compensation law under Title 34A, Utah Labor Code;
- (b) resulting from bodily injury to or death of an employee of the named insured, other than a domestic employee, while engaged in the employment of the insured, or while engaged in the operation, maintenance, or repair of a designated [personal watercraft] motorboat; or
- (c) resulting from damage to property owned by, rented to, bailed to, or transported by the insured.
- (4) An insurance carrier providing [personal watercraft] motorboat liability coverage has the right to settle any claim covered by the policy, and if the settlement is made in good faith, the amount of the settlement is deductible from the limits of liability specified under Section 31A-22-1503.
- (5) A policy containing [personal watercraft] motorboat liability coverage imposes on the insurer the duty to defend, in good faith, any person insured under the policy against any claim or suit seeking damages which would be payable under the policy.
- (6) (a) If a policy containing [personal watercraft] motorboat liability coverage provides an insurer with the defense of lack of cooperation on the part of the insured, that defense is not effective against a third person making a claim against the insurer, unless there was collusion between the third person and the insured.
- (b) If the defense of lack of cooperation is not effective against the claimant, after payment, the insurer is subrogated to the injured person's claim against the insured to the extent

152 of the payment and is entitled to reimbursement by the insured after the injured third person has 153 been made whole with respect to the claim against the insured. 154 (7) A policy of [personal watercraft] motorboat liability coverage may specifically 155 exclude from coverage a person who is a resident of the named insured's household, including 156 a person who usually makes his or her home in the same household but temporarily lives 157 elsewhere, if each person excluded from coverage satisfies the owner's or operator's security 158 requirement of Section [73-18c-101] 78-18c-301, independently of the named insured's proof 159 of owner's or operator's security. 160 Section 4. Section 31A-22-1503 is amended to read: 161 31A-22-1503. Motorboat liability policy minimum limits. 162 Policies containing [personal watercraft] motorboat liability coverage may not limit the 163 insurer's liability under that coverage below the following: 164 (1) (a) \$25,000 because of liability for bodily injury to or death of one person, arising 165 out of the use of a [personal watercraft] motorboat in any one accident; 166 (b) subject to the limit for one person in Subsection (1)(a), in the amount of \$50,000 167 because of liability for bodily injury to or death of two or more persons arising out of the use of 168 a [personal watercraft] motorboat in any one accident; and 169 (c) in the amount of \$15,000 because of liability for injury to, or destruction of, 170 property of others arising out of the use of a [personal watercraft] motorboat in any one 171 accident; or 172 (2) \$65,000 in any one accident whether arising from bodily injury to or the death of 173 others, or from destruction of, or damage to, the property of others. 174 Section 5. Section 31A-22-1504 is amended to read: 175 31A-22-1504. Mandatory coverage. 176 (1) A rental company shall provide its renters with primary coverage meeting the 177 requirements of Title 73, Chapter 18c, Financial Responsibility of [Personal Watercraft] 178 Motorboat Owners and Operators Act. 179 (2) All coverage shall include primary defense costs and may not be waived. 180 Section 6. Section **73-18-13.5** is amended to read:

73-18-13.5. Motorboat accidents -- Investigation and report of operator security

-- Agency action if no security -- Surrender of registration materials.

181

183	(1) Upon request of a peace officer investigating an accident involving a [personal
184	watercraft] motorboat as defined in Section 73-18c-102, the operator of the [personal
185	watercraft] motorboat shall provide evidence of the owner's or operator's security required
186	under Section 73-18c-301.
187	(2) The peace officer shall record on a form approved by the division:
188	(a) the information provided by the operator;
189	(b) whether the operator provided insufficient or no information; and
190	(c) whether the peace officer finds reasonable cause to believe that any information
191	given is not correct.
192	(3) The peace officer shall deposit all completed forms with the peace officer's agency,
193	which shall forward the forms to the division no later than ten days after receipt.
194	(4) (a) The division shall revoke the registration of a [personal watercraft] motorboat as
195	defined in Section 73-18c-102 involved in an accident unless the owner or operator can
196	demonstrate to the division compliance with the owner's or operator's security requirement of
197	Section 73-18c-301 at the time of the accident.
198	(b) Any registration revoked may not be renewed for a period of one year following the
199	date of revocation.
200	(5) A person may appeal a revocation issued under Subsection (4) in accordance with
201	procedures established by the board by rule that are consistent with Title 63, Chapter 46b,
202	Administrative Procedures Act.
203	(6) (a) Any person whose registration is revoked under Subsection (4) shall return the
204	registration card and decals for the [personal watercraft] motorboat to the division.
205	(b) If the person fails to return the registration materials as required, they shall be
206	confiscated under Section 73-18-13.6.
207	(7) The board may make rules for the enforcement of this section.
208	(8) In this section, "evidence of owner's or operator's security" includes any one of the
209	following:
210	(a) the operator's:
211	(i) insurance policy;
212	(ii) binder notice;

213

(iii) renewal notice; or

214	(iv) card issued by an insurance company as evidence of insurance;
215	(b) a copy of a surety bond, certified by the surety, which conforms to Section
216	73-18c-102;
217	(c) a certificate of the state treasurer issued under Section 73-18c-305; or
218	(d) a certificate of self-funded coverage issued under Section 73-18c-306.
219	Section 7. Section 73-18c-101 is amended to read:
220	CHAPTER 18c. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MOTORBOAT
221	OWNERS AND OPERATORS ACT
222	73-18c-101. Title.
223	This chapter [may be cited] is known as the "Financial Responsibility of [Personal
224	Watercraft] Motorboat Owners and Operators Act."
225	Section 8. Section 73-18c-102 is amended to read:
226	73-18c-102. Definitions.
227	As used in this chapter:
228	(1) "Board" means the Board of Parks and Recreation.
229	(2) "Division" means the Division of Parks and Recreation.
230	(3) "Judgment" means any judgment that is final by:
231	(a) expiration without appeal of the time within which an appeal might have been
232	perfected; or
233	(b) final affirmation on appeal, rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction of any
234	state or of the United States, upon a cause of action for damages:
235	(i) arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of any personal watercraft,
236	including damages for care and loss of services because of bodily injury to or death of any
237	person, or because of injury to or destruction of property including the loss of use of the
238	property; or
239	(ii) on a settlement agreement.
240	(4) (a) "Motorboat" has the same meaning as defined in Section 73-18-2.
241	(b) "Motorboat" includes personal watercraft regardless of the manufacturer listed
242	horsepower.
243	(c) "Motorboat" does not include a boat with a manufacturer listed horsepower of 50
244	horsepower or less.

245	[(4)] (5) "Nonresident" means any person who is not a resident of Utah.
246	[(5)] (6) "Operator" means the person who is in control of a [personal watercraft]
247	motorboat while it is in use.
248	[(6)] (7) (a) "Owner" means a person, other than a lien holder, holding a proprietary
249	interest in or the title to a [personal watercraft] motorboat.
250	(b) "Owner" includes a person entitled to the use or possession of a [personal
251	watercraft] motorboat subject to an interest by another person, reserved or created by
252	agreement and securing payment or performance of an obligation.
253	(c) "Owner" does not include a lessee under a lease not intended as security.
254	[(7)] (8) "Owner's or operator's security," "owner's security," or "operator's security"
255	means any of the following:
256	(a) an insurance policy or combination of policies conforming to Sections
257	31A-22-1502 and 31A-22-1503, which is issued by an insurer authorized to do business in
258	Utah;
259	(b) a surety bond issued by an insurer authorized to do a surety business in Utah in
260	which the surety is subject to the minimum coverage limits and other requirements of policies
261	conforming to Sections 31A-22-1502 and 31A-22-1503, which names the division as a creditor
262	under the bond for the use of persons entitled to the proceeds of the bond;
263	(c) a deposit with the state treasurer of cash or securities complying with Section
264	73-18c-305;
265	(d) a certificate of self-funded coverage issued under Section 73-18c-306; or
266	(e) a policy conforming to Sections 31A-22-1502 and 31A-22-1503 issued by the Risk
267	Management Fund created in Section 63A-4-201.
268	[(8)] (9) "Personal watercraft" has the same meaning as provided in Section 73-18-2.
269	[(9)] (10) "Registration" means the issuance of the registration cards and decals issued
270	under the laws of Utah pertaining to the registration of [personal watercraft] motorboat.
271	[(10)] (11) "Registration materials" means the evidences of [personal watercraft]
272	motorboat registration, including all registration cards and decals.
273	[(11)] (12) "Self-insurance" has the same meaning as provided in Section 31A-1-301.
274	[(12)] (13) "Waters of the state" means any waters within the territorial limits of this
275	state.

Section 9. Section **73-18c-301** is amended to read:

73-18c-301. Requirement of owner's or operator's security.

(1) Each resident owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat shall maintain owner's or operator's security in effect at any time that the [personal watercraft] motorboat is operated on waters of the state.

- (2) Each nonresident owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat that has been physically present in this state for 90 or fewer days during the preceding 365 days shall maintain the type and amount of owner's or operator's security required in his or her place of residence at any time the [personal watercraft] motorboat is operated on waters of the state.
- (3) Each nonresident owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat that has been physically present in this state more than 90 days during the preceding 365 days shall thereafter maintain owner's or operator's security in effect at any time the [personal watercraft] motorboat is operated on waters of the state.
- (4) The state and each of its political subdivisions and their respective departments, institutions, or agencies shall maintain owner's or operator's security in effect at any time their personal watercraft are operated on waters of the state.
- (5) Any other state is considered a nonresident owner of its [personal watercraft] motorboat and is subject to Subsection (2) or (3).
- (6) The United States, any political subdivision of it, or any of its agencies may maintain owner's or operator's security in effect for their [personal watercraft] motorboats.
 - Section 10. Section **73-18c-302** is amended to read:

73-18c-302. Operating motorboats without owner's or operator's security -- Penalty.

- (1) Any owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat on which owner's or operator's security is required under Section 73-18c-301, who operates the [personal watercraft] motorboat or permits it to be operated on waters of the state without owner's security being in effect is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- (2) Any other person who operates a [personal watercraft] motorboat upon waters of the state with the knowledge that the owner does not have owner's security in effect for the [personal watercraft] motorboat is also guilty of a class B misdemeanor, unless that person has in effect owner's or operator's security on a Utah-registered [personal watercraft] motorboat or

307	its equivalent that covers the operation, by him or her, of the [personal watercraft] motorboat in
308	question.
309	Section 11. Section 73-18c-303 is amended to read:
310	73-18c-303. Condition to obtaining registration.
311	The owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat required to maintain owner's security
312	under Section 73-18c-301 shall be required to swear or affirm, in writing, that he or she has
313	owner's security in effect at the time of registering the [personal watercraft] motorboat.
314	Section 12. Section 73-18c-304 is amended to read:
315	73-18c-304. Evidence of owner's or operator's security to be carried when
316	operating motorboat Defense Penalties.
317	(1) (a) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(a)(ii), a person operating a [personal
318	watercraft] motorboat shall:
319	(A) have in the person's immediate possession evidence of owner's or operator's
320	security for the [personal watercraft] motorboat the person is operating; and
321	(B) display it upon demand of a peace officer.
322	(ii) A person operating a government-owned or government-leased [personal
323	watercraft] motorboat is exempt from the requirements of Subsection (1)(a)(i).
324	(b) Evidence of owner's or operator's security includes any one of the following:
325	(i) the operator's:
326	(A) insurance policy;
327	(B) binder notice;
328	(C) renewal notice; or
329	(D) card issued by an insurance company as evidence of insurance;
330	(ii) a copy of a surety bond, certified by the surety, which conforms to Section
331	73-18c-102;
332	(iii) a certificate of the state treasurer issued under Section 73-18c-305; or
333	(iv) a certificate of self-funded coverage issued under Section 73-18c-306.
334	(2) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under this section that the person had
335	owner's or operator's security in effect for the [personal watercraft] motorboat the person was
336	operating at the time of the person's citation or arrest.
337	(3) (a) A letter from an insurance producer or company verifying that the person had

the required liability insurance coverage on the date specified is considered proof of owner's or operator's security for purposes of Subsection (2).

- (b) The court considering a citation issued under this section shall allow the letter under Subsection (3)(a) and a copy of the citation to be faxed or mailed to the clerk of the court to satisfy Subsection (2).
 - (4) A violation of this section is a class B misdemeanor.

- (5) If a person is convicted of a violation of this section and if the person is the owner of a [personal watercraft] motorboat, the court shall:
 - (a) require the person to surrender the person's registration materials to the court; and
- 347 (b) forward the registration materials, together with a copy of the conviction, to the division.
 - (6) (a) Upon receiving notification from a court of a conviction for a violation of this section, the division shall revoke the person's [personal watercraft] motorboat registration.
 - (b) Any registration revoked may not be renewed for a period of one year following the date of revocation.
- Section 13. Section **73-18c-306** is amended to read:
 - 73-18c-306. Certificate of self-funded coverage as proof of owner's or operator's security.
 - (1) The division may, upon the application of any person, issue a certificate of self-funded coverage when it is satisfied that the person has:
 - (a) more than 24 [personal watercraft] motorboats; and
 - (b) [deposits] on deposit, in a form approved by the division, <u>cash or</u> securities in an amount of \$200,000 plus \$100 for each [personal watercraft] <u>motorboat</u> up to and including 1,000 [personal watercraft] <u>motorboats</u> and \$50 for each [personal watercraft] <u>motorboat</u> over 1,000 [personal watercraft] <u>motorboats</u>.
 - (2) Persons holding a certificate of self-funded coverage under this chapter shall pay benefits to persons injured from the self-funded person's operation, maintenance, and use of [personal watercraft] motorboats as would an insurer issuing a policy to the self-funded person containing the coverages under Sections 31A-22-1502 and 31A-22-1503.
 - (3) In accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46b, Administrative Procedures Act, the division may, upon reasonable grounds, cancel the certificate. Failure to pay any judgment up

to the limit under Subsection 31A-22-1503(2) within 30 days after the judgment is final is a reasonable ground to cancel the certificate.

- (4) Any government entity with self-funded coverage for government-owned [personal watercraft] motorboats under Title 63, Chapter 30d, Governmental Immunity Act of Utah, meets the requirements of this section.
 - Section 14. Section **73-18c-307** is amended to read:

73-18c-307. Claims adjustment by persons with owner's or operator's security other than insurance.

- (1) An owner or operator of a [personal watercraft] motorboat who maintains owner's or operator's security by a means other than an insurance policy under Section 73-18c-102, shall refer all bodily injury claims against the owner's or operator's security to an independent adjuster licensed under Title 31A, Chapter 26, Insurance Adjusters, or to an attorney.
- (2) Unless otherwise provided by contract, any [personal watercraft] motorboat claim adjustment expense incurred by a person maintaining owner's or operator's security by a means other than an insurance policy under Section 73-18c-102, shall be paid by the person who maintains this type of owner's or operator's security.
- (3) Owners and operators of [personal watercraft] motorboats maintaining owner's or operator's security by a means other than an insurance policy under Section 73-18c-102 are subject to the claim adjustment provisions of Title 31A, Chapter 26, Part 3, Claim Practices, in connection with claims against persons which arise out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a [personal watercraft] motorboat.

Legislative Review Note as of 12-21-05 1:06 PM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel