

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 628 (HB 549)

2018 Regular Session

White

New law defines "houseboat" as a vessel constructed for the primary purpose of a temporary or permanent dwelling without an effective means of propulsion for safe navigation.

Existing law requires every motorboat or sailboat operated in state waters to be registered and numbered. Existing law provides for the numbering system and application process for the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to issue a number and certificate of number. Along with the application, existing law requires the owner to pay a fee based upon the length of the boat as follows:

- (1) \$20 for boats 14 ft. or less.
- (2) \$25 for boats greater than 14 ft. and less than 18 ft.
- (3) \$30 for boats 18 ft. or greater plus two dollars for each foot or portion of a foot greater than 18 ft.

Existing law provides for the department's records of numbering, the proper display of the number on the motorboat or sailboat, where the certificate of number must be located, and for boats numbered by another state or the federal government.

Existing law requires a new application accompanied by a five dollar fee when there is a change in ownership.

Existing law requires the owner to notify the commission of a transfer of any portion of ownership, the creation of a security interest, destruction, or abandonment of a boat within 15 days.

New law makes motorboat and sailboat registration and numbering provisions in existing law, including application fees, applicable to houseboats.

Prior law required the revenue collected from motorboat registration fees be paid into the Conservation Fund to administer and enforce existing law motorboat and vessel provisions and other purposes as the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission determines.

New law applies prior law to revenue collected from sailboat registrations and requires the payment of all registration fees to the Derelict Houseboat Fund created by new law instead of the Conservation Fund.

New law requires the monies in the Derelict Houseboat Fund paid by owners of houseboats be used solely for awarding grants to parish governments to remove any unattended, derelict, junked, or abandoned houseboat in any canal, coulee, drainage ditch, outfall canal, bayou, bay, lake, or any other waterway, whether navigable or not, or on the banks thereof within the state of La.

New law authorizes the commission to promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to provide for the application, administration, and award of such grants.

New law provides for implementation by Jan. 1, 2019.

Effective August 1, 2010.

(Amends R.S. 34:851.19, 851.20(A)(1)(intro. para.), (2), (3), and (4) and (B), (C), (D), (G), and (J), 851.21(A) and (B)(2), (3), and (4) and 851.32; Adds R.S. 34:851.2(13) and R.S. 56:10.2)