

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 429

BY SENATOR LAMBERT

BOATS/BOATING. Provides for registration of certain boats. (8/1/26)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 34:851.20(C), relative to boat registration; to provide for the issuance of certificates of number and decal for certain boats; to provide for applications and required documentation; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 34:851.20(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§851.20. Identification number

* * *

C. (1) Should the ownership of a motorboat, houseboat, or sailboat change, a new application form with a five dollar fee shall be filed with the commission, along with the registration fee required by this Section, and a new certificate of number and a decal, valid for three years, shall be awarded in the same manner as provided for in an original award of number.

(2)(a) An application for a certificate of number may be filed by the possessor of a motorboat, houseboat, or sailboat with a certificate of number that has lapsed for at least five years. The possessor shall submit an affidavit stating the following:

1 **(i) Notice of the application has been provided by certified mail, return**
2 **receipt requested, to the last holder of a certificate of number.**

3 **(ii) The applicant has been in possession of the boat for at least one year**
4 **immediately preceding the date of application.**

5 **(b) Copies of the notice and return receipt shall be submitted to the**
6 **commission with the affidavit.**

7 **(c) All documentation submitted to the commission pursuant to this**
8 **Paragraph shall be in a form prescribed by the commission.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 429 Original

2026 Regular Session

Lambert

Present law provides that each owner of a motorboat, houseboat, or sailboat required to be numbered by the state shall submit an application to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission accompanied by a designated fee. Further provides for the issuance of certificate of number and a decal.

Present law provides for applications filed with the commission in the event ownership of a boat changes.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides for application by the possessor of a motorboat, houseboat, or sailboat with a certificate of number that has lapsed for at least five years.

Proposed law requires such an applicant to submit an affidavit stating a notice has been provided by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last holder of a certificate of number and the applicant has been in possession of the boat for at least one year immediately preceding the date of application.

Proposed law requires copies of the notice and return receipt be submitted with the affidavit and all documentation be in a form prescribed by the commission.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 34:851.20(C))