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## KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluearass Bill

## Blue | BG 18

Bluegrass Bill	Referred to Committee: Senate 1	
Authors: Abby Rutledge, Liam Ryan, Alex Powers, Seth Jennings	Action on the Bill	
School: St. Margaret Mary	House	Senate
City: Louisville	□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An act to establish a program to license all boat operators.

## Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: All persons operating a motor boat on any lake or waterway in the state must be at least 12 years of age and have passed a written boat safety exam administered by the County Clerk.

Section 2: In addition to passing the written boat safety exam, any person operating a boat on any lake or waterway in the state without supervision of an approved operator must be at least 18 years of age, unless the person can establish they are (a) At least 16 years of age; (b) have not been involved in a boat accident; and (c) have at least 30 hours of boat operation experience with a licensed operator.

Section 3: Any person who received a boat safety violation or is involved in a boat accident must retake the written boat safety exam.

Section 4: Any person violating this statute must pay a fine of no less than \$500 and may not operate a boat for 6 months.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2017

This Bill amends KRS 235.285(7) which allows a person between 12 and 17 years old to operate a boat if they have a safe boating certificate or are accompanied by someone over the age of 18. In addition, this Bill requires all boat operators to first obtain a written boat safety exam, which is not currently required.