



HOUSE BILL 1027: Bald Head Island/No-Wake Zone.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government I	Date:	June 6, 2018
Introduced by:	Rep. Iler	Prepared by:	Jessica Sammons Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H1027-CSBKf-42		

OVERVIEW: House Bill 1027 would authorize the Department of Public Safety of the Village of Bald Head Island to enforce the Village's "no-wake" speed zone for motorboats and vessels within the Village's corporate limits and within one mile of the Village's corporate limits.

The PCS would make violation of the "no-wake" speed zone an infraction, punishable by a fine of \$50.00. Violations would be enforceable by wildlife protectors and law enforcement officers in the State.

CURRENT LAW: Operating any motorboat or vessel at greater than no-wake upon any waters within the community of Sunset Harbor and the Village of Bald Head Island is a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. The restricted areas must be marked in accordance with the Uniform Waterway Marking System by the community or its designee. "No-wake speed" is idle speed or a slow speed creating no appreciable wake. S.L. 1987-688.

Section 3 of S.L. 1987-688 provides that this law is to be enforced by officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission and by the Brunswick County Sheriff.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS to House Bill 1027 would amend S.L. 1987-688 to make violation of the no-wake speed zone in the Village of Bald Head Island an infraction, punishable by a fine of \$50.00, and no court costs would be assessed. An infraction is a noncriminal violation of law, not punishable by imprisonment. G.S. 14-3.1.

Violations would be enforceable by every wildlife protector and other law enforcement officer of the State and its subdivisions. Wildlife protectors and other State law enforcement officers would have authority to stop any vessel and, upon identifying themselves as an officer, board and inspect any vessel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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