



HOUSE BILL 66: Req Active Time Felony Death MV/Boat.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 26, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Pittman, Speciale, Jackson, Graham	Prepared by:	Susan Sitze
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 66 would require an active sentence for conviction of felony death by vehicle or death by impaired boating.

CURRENT LAW:

Felony Death by Vehicle (G.S. 20-141.4(a1))

- (a) Felony Death by Vehicle. – A person commits the offense of felony death by vehicle if:
 - (1) The person unintentionally causes the death of another person,
 - (2) The person was engaged in the offense of impaired driving under G.S. 20-138.1 or G.S. 20-138.2, and
 - (3) The commission of the offense in subdivision (2) of this subsection is the proximate cause of the death.

Death by Impaired Boating (G.S. 75A-10.3(a))

- (a) Death by Impaired Boating. – A person commits the offense of death by impaired boating if all of the following apply:
 - (1) The person unintentionally causes the death of another person.
 - (2) The person was engaged in the offense of impaired boating under G.S. 75A-10(b1).
 - (3) The commission of the offense in subdivision (2) of this subsection is the proximate cause of the death.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 of House Bill 66 would amend the punishment for Felony Death by Vehicle. Under current law, Felony Death by Vehicle is a Class D felony, which if sentenced pursuant to the Structured Sentencing Chart would require an active sentence. However, current law allows a person with a Prior Record Level I to be sentenced outside the chart and given an intermediate sentence. House Bill 66 would provide that if an intermediate sentence is given, it must include special probation with a continuous period of confinement of one-fourth the maximum sentence imposed for the offense, which could be up to 27 months.

Section 2 of House Bill 66 would amend the punishment for Death by Impaired Boating. Under current law, Death by Impaired Boating is a Class D felony, which if sentenced pursuant to the Structured Sentencing Chart would require an active sentence. However, current law allows a person with a Prior Record Level I to be sentenced outside the chart and given an intermediate sentence. House Bill 66 would provide that if an intermediate sentence is given, it must include special probation with a continuous period

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of confinement of one-fourth the maximum sentence imposed for the offense, which could be up to 27 months.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2019, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

BACKGROUND:

Class D felony minimum punishment chart.

	A	A	A	A	A	A	DISPOSITION
	64-80	73-92	84-105	97-121	111-139	128-160	Aggravated
D	51-64	59-73	67-84	78-97	89-111	103-128	PRESUMPTIVE
	38-51	44-59	51-67	58-78	67-89	77-103	Mitigated

Corresponding maximums for the range of minimum sentences applicable to Prior Record Level I offenders range from 58 months to 104 months.

Corresponding maximums for the entire range of Class D minimum sentences range from 58 months to 204 months.