



HOUSE BILL 183: Lake Glenville/Restrict Wake Surfing.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 7, 2025
Introduced by:	Rep. Clampitt	Prepared by:	Michael Johnston*
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 183 would make wake surfing on the waters of Lake Glenville in Jackson County within 500 feet of the shoreline or any structure, moored vessel, kayak, canoe, paddleboard, or swimmer a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 in addition to any other punishment prescribed for that offense.*

CURRENT LAW: The General Assembly has enacted legislation declaring no-wake zones for several North Carolina lakes, including S.L. 1989-253 (Lake Adger, Polk County; Lake Wylie, Mecklenburg County), S.L. 2002-23 (High Rock Lake, Rowan County), and G.S. 75A-14.1 (Lake Norman, Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg Counties). A violation of these provisions is generally punishable as an infraction or misdemeanor.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 183 would make wake surfing on the waters of Lake Glenville in Jackson County within 500 feet of the shoreline or any structure, moored vessel, kayak, canoe, paddleboard, or swimmer a Class 1 misdemeanor. Wake surfing would be defined as the operation of a motorboat to which weight has been added in the stern via water-filled tanks or other ballasts for the purpose of creating an artificially enlarged wake that is or is intended to be surfed on by another person towed behind the motorboat.

The offense would be enforceable by law enforcement officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and other peace officers with general subject matter jurisdiction and punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 in addition to any other punishment prescribed for the offense.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective October 1, 2025, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

**Michael Whitfield and Ike McRee, Legislative Analysis Division, substantially contributed to this summary.*

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