



# RBOC

Protecting your boating interests.

925 L Street • Suite 260  
Sacramento CA 95814

[www.rbo.org](http://www.rbo.org)

**SUMMER 2013**

# BOATER BRIEF

**RBOC is lobbying and testifying in support of legislation. Letters were sent by RBOC President Jack Michael to state legislative committees and testimony given in support of the following bills:**

## **SB 427 (Monning) - PFDs**

RBOC has adopted a “support” position on SB 427 and urges an “aye” vote when the measure is considered in Legislative Committees. This bill deletes the requirement that boaters under the age of 13, and all persons on board a personal watercraft or being towed behind a boat as a skier, wear a specific type of United States Coast Guard (USCG) approved floatation device, and instead requires the person use a USCG approved wearable floatation used in accordance with approval labels and manufacturer’s instructions.

## **SB 457 (Monning) Boating Accidents**

This bill requires that any local agency receiving grant funds from the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) to report and collect data on any boating accident to which it responds or which it has received a report, and provide this

data to DBW. RBOC supports this measure.

## **SB 122 (Lieu) Abandoned Vessels**

RBOC supports the provisions of SB 122 that would eliminate the January 1, 2014 statutory sunset on the laws that provide for the abandoned vessel program and surrendered vessel program. These programs work to rid the waterways of derelict and abandoned vessels, and enable boaters to turn in their vessels rather than abandon them on the waterways. They are an effective and efficient use of boater-generated funds in the Harbor and Watercraft Revolving Fund. They are well administrated by the Department of Boating and Waterways. RBOC endorses the continuation of these programs without a statutory sunset.

RBOC President Jack Michael stated in his letter to Senator Ted Lieu “As the Department of Boating and Waterways becomes a Division within The Department of Parks and Recreation effective July 1as per the provisions of GRP #2 of 2012, it is critical that the transition preserves and maintains the integrity, vitality, structure, funding and effectiveness of the abandoned vessel program and the surrendered vessel program. RBOC will endeavor to work with you and the Legislature to ensure this occurs.”

## **COPPER BOTTOM PAINT Leach Rate**

RBOC supports AB 425 (Atkins) in its current form. This bill would require the Department of Pesticide Regulation, not later than February 1, 2014, to determine a leach rate for copper-based antifouling paint used on recreational vessels and to make recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures that may be implemented to protect aquatic environments from the effects of exposure to that paint if it is registered as a pesticide.

## **Support RBOC**

We estimate that, over the years, RBOC’s efforts are saving each boating family several \$100 each year. RBOC represents all California Boaters and operates solely on donations from boaters like You!

### **We need your help.**

- ▶ RBOC encourages all yacht clubs to contribute a minimum of \$20 per boating family per year.
- ▶ Boaters who are not members of yacht clubs, benefit from RBOC’s activities, and are asked to contribute \$20 per family.

### **Not much for such a return on investment!!**

It is easy to make a contribution either mail donations to: RBOC, 925 L Street – Ste.260, Sacramento, CA 95814-3703 OR donations may be made on-line at [www.rbo.org](http://www.rbo.org) using Discover, Visa, American Express, MasterCard, or PayPal. Donations are not tax deductible due to RBOC’s extensive lobbying efforts.