

SB187: Positive Changes to Indiana's Wake Boarding and Wake Surfing Activities Explained

The Indiana General Assembly will consider SB 187 this session, focused on wake surfing and wake boarding regulations that keep Indiana's waters safe for all to enjoy. Indiana's marine economy, including recreational boating, fishing, and towed watersports, is a **major economic driver across Indiana**.

\$4.1 Billion
Economic
Impact

14,000+
Hoosier
Jobs

400
Local Businesses
Supported

Supported by the recreational boating industry, SB 187 is sensible legislation that will align wake surfing and wake boarding with existing regulations for other towed watersports, such as water skiing. And SB 187 will put in place important new safety provisions that will protect users on the water.

WHAT WILL SB 187 ACCOMPLISH?



Clearly and appropriately define the activities of wake boarding and wake surfing.



Restrict wake surfing and wake boarding during the period between sunset and sunrise. This is a widely accepted standard across the United States.



Align wake surfing and wake boarding on small public freshwater lakes (70-300 acres) to be consistent with the lakes' speed limit exemption, which will establish unity among watersports.



Establish a formal petition process for property owners on public freshwater lakes to petition the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to adopt additional regulations regarding wake surfing and wake boarding. Petitions require participation of half of the abutting property owners and public hearing.



Prohibit wake surfing behind any boat that has an exposed propeller.

