

1 **SB 6250** - H AMD TO NR COMM AMD (H-5261.1/96) **415**  
2 By Representatives Regala and others

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4 On page 1, strike everything after the enacting clause and  
5 insert the following:

6 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 88.12.115 and 1993 c 244 s 14 are each amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) No person may operate or permit the operation of a vessel  
9 on the waters of the state without a personal flotation device on  
10 board for each person on the vessel. Each personal flotation  
11 device shall be in serviceable condition, of an appropriate size,  
12 and readily accessible.

13 (2) No person may operate or permit to be operated a vessel  
14 under nineteen feet in length unless each person nine years of age  
15 or younger on the vessel wears a United States coast guard-approved  
16 personal flotation device. This requirement shall not apply to a  
17 vessel that is at anchor, or made fast to the shore, or aground.

18 (3) Except as provided in RCW 88.12.015, a violation of  
19 subsection (1) or (2) of this section is an infraction under  
20 chapter 7.84 RCW if the vessel is not carrying passengers for hire.

21 (~~((3))~~) (4) A violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this  
22 section is a misdemeanor punishable under RCW 9.92.030, if the  
23 vessel is carrying passengers for hire.

24 (5) Enforcement of subsection (2) of this section by law  
25 enforcement officers may be accomplished only as a secondary action  
26 when a vessel has been detained for a suspected violation of this  
27 chapter or some other offense."

**EFFECT:** Removes the requirement that the vessels must be powered by mechanized power; changes the age of the children required to wear personal flotation devices from age six and younger to age nine and younger; specifies that the requirement does not apply to a vessel that is at anchor, made fast to the shore, or aground.