



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 371**

LCO No. 1745



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:  
(PS)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE  
REQUIREMENT FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF TWELVE  
WHILE ON PUBLIC DOCKS, WHARVES AND PIERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) Notwithstanding the  
2 provisions of any special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance,  
3 any child under the age of twelve shall wear a personal flotation device  
4 while on any public dock, wharf or pier in the state. As used in this  
5 section, "personal flotation device" has the same meaning as provided  
6 in 33 CFR 175.13, as amended from time to time.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To require children under the age of twelve to wear personal flotation devices while on any dock, wharf or pier.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*