

12:7-34.38 and 12:7-34.39

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

**NJSA:** 12:7-34.38 and 12:7-34.39

(Racing sailboats--registration number--eliminate requirement for display.)

**LAWS OF:** 1985

**CHAPTER:** 56

**Bill No:** A501

**Sponsor(s):** Doyle

**Date Introduced:** Pre-filed

**Committee:** **Assembly:** Agriculture

**Senate:** Energy and Environment

**Amended during passage:** No

Senate Committee substitute enacted

**Date of Passage:**

**Assembly:** Dec. 6, 1984

**Senate:** Jan. 3, 1985

**Date of Approval:** February 23, 1985

**Following statements are attached if available:**

**Sponsor statement:** Yes

**Committee statement:** **Assembly** No

**Senate** Yes

**Fiscal Note:** No

**Veto Message:** No

**Message on Signing:** Yes

**Following were printed:**

**Reports:** No

**Hearings:** No

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 501**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 13, 1984

AN ACT concerning the display of numbers on certain vessels and  
amending P. L. 1962, c. 73.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 3 of P. L. 1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.38) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 3. Except as herein otherwise provided, every vessel which is  
4 upon the waters of this State shall be numbered in accordance with  
5 the provisions of this act, and no person shall operate or give per-  
6 mission to operate any vessel on such waters unless it is so  
7 numbered.

8 A vessel shall not be required to be numbered under this act if it  
9 is:

10 (a) A documented vessel;

11 (b) Being legally operated and meets all current requirements  
12 pursuant to applicable federal law or a federally-approved  
13 numbering system of another state; provided, that such vessel  
14 shall not have been within this State for a period in excess of 180  
15 consecutive days, unless it is in New Jersey for the purpose of wet  
16 or dry storage, or for repairs, in which case the actual time for  
17 said storage or repair shall not be counted as included within the  
18 180 days aforesaid; provided, however, that a vessel shall be con-  
19 sidered to be based within this State if its owner owns, maintains,  
20 leases, or rents space in this State for its storage, mooring, or  
21 servicing on other than on a transient basis;

22 (c) From a country other than the United States temporarily  
23 using the waters of this State;

24 (d) A public vessel of the United States, a state or subdivision  
25 or agency thereof;

**Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.**

26 (e) A ship's lifeboat;

27 (f) Any vessel used exclusively for racing while actually compet-  
28 ing in or tuning up for an authorized race held under the auspices  
29 of a duly incorporated yacht club or racing association in accordance  
30 with the rules and regulations prescribed by the department and  
31 pursuant to a permit duly issued by the department;

32 (g) A *sailboat* or vessel, except for power vessels, used exclu-  
33 sively on small lakes and ponds wholly within private lands;

34 (h) A non-motorized inflatable, surfboard, racing shell, rowing  
35 scull, tender for direct transportation between a vessel and the  
36 shore and for no other purpose (dinghy), or vessel, except power  
37 vessels, of 12 feet or less in length;

38 (i) A canoe or kayak;

39 (j) *A sailboat of 12 feet or less in length.*

40 *A sailboat shall be required to be numbered under this act if it is*  
41 *any class of one-design sailboat, in excess of 12 feet in length, which*  
42 *is temporarily or permanently equipped with power installed either*  
43 *inboard or outboard.*

1 2. Section 4 of P. L. 1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.39) is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 4. (a) The owner of a vessel required to be numbered in this  
4 State shall file an application with the department on forms  
5 approved by it. The application shall be signed by the owner and  
6 shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed by this act for such  
7 vessel. Upon receipt of the application in the approved form and  
8 the prescribed fee, the department shall enter the same upon the  
9 records of its office and issue to the applicant, a pocket-size certificate  
10 of number, which shall state the name and address of the owner, a  
11 description of the vessel, its use, and the number assigned.

12 (b) Except as provided herein, the certificate of number shall  
13 be available at all times for inspection on the vessel for which issued  
14 whenever such vessel is in operation. The certificate of number  
15 for vessels less than 26 feet in length and leased or rented to  
16 another for the latter's noncommercial use of less than 24 hours  
17 may be retained on shore by the vessel's owner or his representative  
18 at the place from which the vessel departs or returns to the  
19 possession of the owner or his representative provided such sub-  
20 stitute as the commissioner may prescribe by regulation is carried  
21 on board.

22 (c) The number assigned to a vessel shall be displayed on each  
23 side of the bow thereof, as prescribed by regulations of the depart-  
24 ment, using letters and numerals not less than three inches in

25 height; *except that this provision shall not apply to a one-design*  
26 *class racing sailboat, without power installed either inboard or*  
27 *outboard, which is required to be numbered under section 3 of P. L.*  
28 *1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.38).* No other number shall be displayed on  
29 the bow.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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**ASSEMBLY, No. 501**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1984 SESSION

By Assemblyman DOYLE

AN ACT concerning the display of numbers on certain vessels and  
amending P. L. 1962, c. 73.

1    BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2    *of New Jersey:*

1    1. Section 4 of P. L. 1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.39) is amended to  
2    read as follows:

3    4. (a) The owner of a vessel required to be numbered in this  
4    State shall file an application with the department on forms  
5    approved by it. The application shall be signed by the owner and  
6    shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed by this act for such  
7    vessel. Upon receipt of the application in the approved form and  
8    the prescribed fee, the department shall enter the same upon the  
9    records of its office and issue to the applicant, a pocket-size  
10   certificate of number, which shall state the name and address of  
11   the owner, a description of the vessel, its use, and the number  
12   assigned.

13   (b) Except as provided herein, the certificate of number shall  
14   be available at all times for inspection on the vessel for which issued  
15   whenever such vessel is in operation. The certificate of number  
16   for vessels less than 26 feet in length and leased or rented to  
17   another for the latter's noncommercial use of less than 24 hours  
18   may be retained on shore by the vessel's owner or his representa-  
19   tive at the place from which the vessel departs or returns to the  
20   possession of the owner or his representative provided such sub-  
21   stitute as the commissioner may prescribe by regulation is carried  
22   on board.

**Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.**

23 (c) The number assigned to a vessel shall be displayed on each  
24 side of the bow thereof, as prescribed by regulations of the de-  
25 partment, using letters and numerals not less than three inches in  
26 height; *except that this provision shall not apply to a one-design*  
27 *class racing sailboat, without power installed either inboard or*  
28 *outboard, which is required to be numbered under section 3 of*  
29 *P. L. 1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.38). No other number shall be dis-*  
30 *played on the bow.*

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill eliminates the requirement that the registration number for a certain type of racing sailboat is to be displayed on each side of the bow thereof. This type of vessel sits so low in the water that it is difficult to maintain the number in a readable condition.

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SENATE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 501**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 13, 1984

The Senate Committee Substitute for Assembly No. 501 amends the sections of the "New Jersey Boat Act of 1962," P. L. 1962, c. 73 (C. 12:7-34.3 et seq.) pertaining to the registration and numbering of sailboats. Specifically, this bill provides that (1) sailboats of less than 12 feet do not need to be registered or numbered, and (2) one design class racing sailboats more than 12 feet in length, and without inboard or outboard power installed, must be registered, but do not have to be equipped with the State issued identification number displayed on their bows. One design class racing sailboats (such as a "Sunfish" or "Laser") sit so low in the water that it is virtually impossible to display the number above the water line where it can be read.



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR NEWS RELEASE

CN-001

Contact: PAUL WOLCOTT  
609-292-8956

TRENTON, N.J. 08625

Release: MONDAY, FEB. 25, 1985

Governor Thomas H. Kean has signed the following bills:

SJR-53, sponsored by State Senator Frank Pallone, Jr., D-Monmouth, which requests the United States Department of Defense and the Navy to provide sufficient information to enable State and local disaster control authorities to plan an effective response to a potential nuclear accident at Earle Naval Station in Monmouth County.

A-501, sponsored by Assemblyman John P. Doyle, D-Ocean, which eliminates the requirement for certain sailboats to display registration numbers on each side of the bow of the boat. The amendment applies to sailboats of 12 feet or less in length, sailboats used exclusively on private lands, and one-design class sailboats without inboard or outboard motors.

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