

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 18, 1999

LB 176

and if it's the will of the body and there's 25 votes to adopt this amendment, so be it. But I think jet skis are certainly a lot of fun. They're making them more powerful. I hate to see them characterized as vehicles that drive...go 85 miles an hour without brakes. I've never seen one go 85. I suppose they can, but usually at some point in time they get kind of tough to handle. So bear with me. I hope you'll vote against the Bohlke amendment and support the Hilgert amendment. Let...please let 14-year-olds ride these jet skis after they've had the training course.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. The last time this bill was up, I did...I spoke against the...the jet skis for the simple fact of the lakes in this state aren't as big as they are in a lot of other states, especially in Minnesota where you've got acres and acres and acres of water. You're not going to be as restricted as you are in the areas, and especially in the area that I represent where we have sandpits. I know there are regulations on each of the lakes pertaining to how those watercraft are operated. Visiting with the Game and Parks people at my particular lake, they spend most of their time trying to regulate the jet skis, not only jet skis but some of the more high-powered...high-powered watercraft. And Senator...I visited with Senator Bohlke here just a little bit, and she is going to, I believe, amend this amendment so that it says "personal watercraft" rather than "motorboat". There is a difference, and in the bill it also says that a motor...a personal watercraft shall mean a class of inboard vehicle less than 16 feet in length which is used for...which is used as an internal combustion engine powered by a jet pump. So it is different than any other class of motorboat. And I believe that there should be a little difference. That is the type of watercraft that I...I believe I can support, the 16-year-old. From what I've seen of them...I know Senator Schrock says that, you know, they're great fun and so on and so forth. They probably are, I've never ridden one,