

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

May 18, 1999

LB 176

basically what you're looking at, only you got them on the water rather than on the ground. I don't think the Game Commission really enforces the no wake on a lot of lakes, with the jet skis. Don't know that they do even with the boats. There's a lot of public lakes out there where people would like to have five-mile-an-hour areas on them, back in the bays. The Game Commission don't seem to want to put any back there, so I think they need to have some responsibility and I think 16 is probably a good age. So I think I'm going to support the Bohlke amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Madam President, members. It's been interesting listening to this discussion. My first question is, when we differentiate between personal watercraft and other motorboats, as we all know them to be, I know that boats can go fast and they don't have brakes, at least most boats that we're talking about here. And I'm curious why we take those out of the scenario if our concern is the speed, safety, and being able to stop. Could Senator Bohlke yield to clarify that? Would Senator Bohlke yield, please?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: My question is if motorboats can go fast and don't have brakes, which I think a lot of them do, why are we removing that piece from this issue?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Smith, that issue was not included in the original bill so it has not had a public hearing. I believe that that has ramifications for a large number of people. If we were going to go that way, I think we should introduce a bill that would allow it to have a public hearing.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Okay. That...that's understood. Was the 16-year provision actually in the public hearing, or was it just a point of discussion in committee...Exec Session?

SENATOR BOHLKE: When Senator Matzke introduced his bill two