

News Release



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Governor Christie Signs Bill Into Law Reducing Sales Tax on Boats

Manasquan, NJ – The recreational boating industry in New Jersey was given a boost today by the signing of S-2784/A-3856 (Van Drew, Whelan/Andrzejczak, Johnson) into law. Governor Christie signed the bill which provides a partial exemption and maximum sales and use tax imposition amount for sales and uses of boats and vessels, and establishes a grace period for use tax imposition on certain boats and vessels used by resident purchasers.

"This is a tremendous victory for the industry and boating in New Jersey," stated MTA/NJ Executive Director, Melissa Danko. "We are very thankful to everyone that helped make this happen, including our legislative sponsors Senator Van Drew and Assemblyman Andrzejczak, and especially Governor Christie for expanding the tax savings on all boats, signing this important legislation into law and supporting the boating industry in New Jersey. This new law will not only get more people out on the water enjoying our waterways but will ensure the future health and growth of the New Jersey recreational boating industry by increasing revenues and creating jobs."

This new law reduces the tax rate to 3.5% across the board for boats, regardless of the price of the boat - with a cap of \$20,000. The bill also includes a 30 day grace period for use tax imposition. The Senate approved the bill by a vote of 35-1 and the Assembly approved it 64-0.

"Our industry has been struggling for many years following the economic downturn, the devastation of Hurricane Sandy and competition from other states with many lost sales. This new law will not only get more people out on the water enjoying our waterways but will ensure the future health and growth of the New Jersey recreational boating industry by increasing revenues and creating jobs."

In a release from Senator Van Drew, he stated, "The production of boats and other vessels has declined in recent years due to a range of factors, including the economic recession and the impact of Superstorm Sandy. This new law will help to revive the industry through changes to our tax structure. It will allow us to compete with states like Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and Florida. Ultimately, it will help to bring back consumers to our state for these purchases, supporting our shore-area businesses and growing local jobs."

"I want to thank the governor for working with us and for signing this legislation, which is so important to New Jersey. Reducing the sales tax amount on non-commercial boats will provide a much-needed

boost to the industry that we expect will have a real, lasting impact for years to come," Senator Van Drew stated.

About the MTA/NJ

The Marine Trades Association of New Jersey (MTA/NJ), established in 1972, is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, advancing and protecting the recreational marine industry and waterways in the State of New Jersey. The MTA/NJ is dedicated to the interests of the industry as a whole for the benefit of its individual members and the consumers whom they serve. In addition to many accomplishments, the MTA/NJ produces two boat shows, the Jersey Shore Boat Sale & Expo held in September at FirstEnergy Park in Lakewood and the New Jersey Boat Sale & Expo held in February at the New Jersey Convention & Expo Center in Edison. The MTA/NJ proudly endorses the Progressive Insurance Atlantic City Boat Show held in February.