

Sixty-sixth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2342

Introduced by

Senator Erbele

Representative Brandenburg

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 20.1-13 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to regulation of airboats to prevent excessive noise; and to provide a  
3 penalty.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 20.1-13 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Airboat regulation - Penalty.**

8 1. For purposes of this section, unless context otherwise requires:

9 a. "Airboat" means a vessel designed primarily for use in shallow waters and  
10 powered by an internal combustion engine with an airplane-type propeller  
11 mounted above the stern and used to push air across a set of rudders.

12 b. "Muffler" means an automotive-style sound-suppression device or system  
13 designed to abate effectively the sound of exhaust gases emitted from an internal  
14 combustion engine and prevent excessive sound when installed on an engine.

15 2. The exhaust of an internal combustion engine used on an airboat operated on the  
16 waters of this state must be equipped with an automotive-style factory muffler,  
17 underwater exhaust, or other manufactured device capable of adequately muffling the  
18 sound of the exhaust of the engine. The use of cutouts or flex pipe as the sole source  
19 of muffling is prohibited. This subsection does not apply to authorized law enforcement  
20 airboats or other emergency response airboats.

21 3. An airboat operator who violates subsection 2 is guilty of a class 1 noncriminal  
22 offense.

23 4. An airboat operator cited for a violation of subsection 2 may not operate the airboat  
24 that is not in compliance with subsection 2 until a muffler is installed.