

Chapter 450

(Senate Bill 1028)

AN ACT concerning

**Natural Resources – Vessels – Carbon Monoxide Warning Labels
(Matthew’s Law)**

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from operating a ~~gasoline-powered motorized~~ gasoline-powered vessel manufactured after a certain date that has a cabin or other closed living space accommodation spaces, swim platforms, or aft lounging areas on the waters of the State unless the vessel has carbon monoxide warning labels affixed in conspicuous locations in certain areas of the vessel; prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from imposing a certain penalty; and generally relating to the State Boat Act.

BY adding to

Article – Natural Resources
Section 8-740.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Natural Resources

8-740.2.

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, “MOTORIZED VESSEL” DOES NOT INCLUDE A VESSEL POWERED BY AN ELECTRIC MOTOR.~~

~~(B)~~ (A) A PERSON MAY NOT OPERATE A ~~GASOLINE-POWERED~~ MOTORIZED GASOLINE-POWERED VESSEL MANUFACTURED AFTER JULY 31, 2007, THAT HAS A CABIN OR OTHER CLOSED LIVING SPACE ACCOMMODATION SPACES, SWIM PLATFORMS, OR AFT LOUNGING AREAS ON THE WATERS OF THE STATE UNLESS THE VESSEL HAS CARBON MONOXIDE WARNING LABELS AFFIXED IN CONSPICUOUS LOCATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF BOTH THE TRANSOM AND THE HELM OF THE VESSEL.

~~(C)~~ ~~THE~~ (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT IMPOSE A PENALTY ON A PERSON THAT VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.