

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, on average, nearly 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; approximately 71% of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and of those, almost eighty-five (85) percent were not reported as wearing a life jacket.

Whereas, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by operator inattention, inexperience, improper lookout, machinery failure and excessive speed; and

Whereas, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and

Whereas, today's life jackets are well designed, comfortable, and more wearable than styles of years past and add greatly to the safety of today's boating public.

Therefore, we, the City of Isle of Palms, do hereby support the goals of the North American Safe Boating Campaign and proclaim May 17 – 23, 2014, as National Safe Boating Week and the start of the year-round effort to promote safe boating in this, the 75th anniversary of the founding of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In Witness Whereof, I urge all those who boat to WEAR IT! and to practice safe boating habits.

Given under my signature and the seal of the City of Isle of Palms this 6th day of May, 2014.


Richard F. Cronin, Mayor