

GOVERNMENT AND PARTNER RELATIONS COMMITTEE
2012 Governing Board Detroit

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
Stf/C Howard F. Manly, AP
Assistant Chairman

REGION A - P/D/C James Spencer, SN

Connecticut - The State of Connecticut has recorded an increased number of boating deaths during the first half of 2012. State and Coast Guard Investigations are ongoing. Final report expected for presentation at National Meeting 2013.

The State considering doing away with providing free boating education and on-line boating education deferred.

Michigan - Four bills were enacted into Law to take effect on 1 November 2012:

- 1) 4845 – Allows children under age 12 to operate a motor boat if they pass a boating safety course and receive a certificate
- 2) 4846 – Clarifies requirement for use of PFD for persons being towed
- 3) 4847 – Revises lighting requirement for barges
- 4) 4848 – Changes the Law to classify fleeing law enforcement officers with a vessel to a felony

Nebraska - Significant legislative action taken to make boating education mandatory

New York - Positive steps were taken by the New York State Legislature to make Boating Education mandatory. Our New York State Legislative Liaison Officer **Larry Weiss** presented a convincing testimony to the NY State Senate on the benefits of boating education and how the USPS can facilitate the training.

REGION B - P/D/C Danny Tompkins, SN

No significant boating legislative activity reported from Region B

REGION C - P/R/C Lew Dance, SN

Washington - The State of Washington has enacted legislation that the new stand-up paddle boards are to be considered “vessels” and as such require “paddlers” to wear PFD and a sounding device.