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Non-Motorized Boat (including canoe and kayak) Registration

Non-motorized boaters use a lot of resources when they are recreating on Wisconsin waters. Resources such as public landings, Sheriff Departments, DNR Wardens, and Local EMS and Fire Rescues. If the State of Wisconsin would require all Wisconsin residents to register their non-motorized boats for use on public waters, we would be able to generate some revenue to help reimburse some of these departments.

We could be consistent with other states and have the registration decals appearing both on the port and starboard of the vessel. Once the number has been assigned to the vessel, it would remain with that vessel for its lifetime.

By applying a decal, law enforcement and citizens would now have a way to identify non-motorized boats and their owners. For reasons such as lost or stolen vessels, vessel occupants that may not be following WI laws or for search and rescue reasons.

Also being consistent with other states, registration fees could be in the range of \$25 to \$30 for a three year span. Non-motorized boat rental businesses could register there vessels under a fleet program at a discounted price. This is a small price to pay for the many resources Wisconsin has to offer.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Iowa County on April 9, 2012 recommends that all non-motorized boats in the State of Wisconsin be registered through the WI DNR.

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