

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION
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Update on the Renewable Fuel Standards Act of 2015: Congressman Goodlatte's bill H.R. 704, that will Reform the RFS Act and limit the ethanol content in gasoline at 10%. The bill now has 44 Co-sponsors and has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power. As more information becomes available on this important legislation, I will send it on to everyone.

Senate Bill, S. 577 Introduced to Coincide with H.R. 704, the RFS Reform Act of 2015: As reported in NMMA Currents, on Thursday, February 26, Senators Diane Feinstein and Pat Toomey introduced the Corn Ethanol Mandate Elimination Act of 2015, eliminating only the corn ethanol mandate portion of the RFS. While the bill does not specifically cap E10, which the boating industry supports, passage would gut the main driver of higher corn ethanol.

NMMA applauds the move by Senators Toomey and Feinstein as they work together, across the aisle, to address the critical flaws of the Renewable Fuel Standard. The RFS is a broken law which sets unrealistic fuel mandates and requires a long-term fix from Congress. The recreational boating community as a whole knows first-hand the problems associated with the RFS. This damage hurts manufacturers during a time of important economic recovery and places the burden of unnecessary risks upon the shoulders of the boating public.

NBF also applauds the efforts of the National Marine Manufacturers Assoc., for all their hard work to ensure the boating public does not have to endure the damaging and costly effects of having E15 Ethanol in our fuel supply.

The U.S. Senate and House Pass Funding for the Department of Homeland Security for all of FY 2015: Both Houses of Congress finally passed bills funding the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through October 1, 2015. The House passed the Homeland Security funding bill without provisions that would curtail the President's executive orders on immigration. The Senate passed the legislation the previous week and the President's signature is certain. This was a blow to conservatives in the House who fought to use the spending measure to force the President to roll back his orders allowing millions of undocumented immigrants the chance to stay in the U.S. legally.

House and Senate passage of the DHS funding bill, without any provisions on illegal immigrants ensures that TSA, Border Patrol, the Secret Service, the U. S. Coast Guard, FEMA and new initiatives bolstering cyber-security are funded until the end of fiscal year 2015.

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