

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-

A Resolution Supporting a Consistent Distance from the Shoreline of Lake Anna and the Application to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) for a Consistent 200-Foot Setback Rule for Lake Anna

WHEREAS, currently Spotsylvania County has an ordinance in effect that defines distance from shore for motorboats specific to “towing skis or surfboard near shoreline of Lake Anna” (Spotsylvania County Code, Section 14-12); and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is inconsistent with other ordinances in content, distance from shore, and degree of penalties for violations, making law enforcement very difficult on Lake Anna; and

WHEREAS, innovative designs, greater horsepower, and unique engineering to increase boat performance and operation in the creation of ever-increasing size of wakes have increased safety concerns that have arisen as a result of these developments; and

WHEREAS, reports of small boats and paddle sports enthusiasts being swamped and overturning, waves crashing over occupied docks, rip rap being washed back into the water at an accelerated rate, and sea walls being damages have become increasingly common complaints among Lake Anna residents; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Virginia states that it is unlawful to operate any motorboat at greater than no-wake speed when 50 feet or less from docks, piers, boathouses, boat ramps, and people in the water, but in reality, 50 feet has not proven to be an adequate distance to provide a safe boating environment for all of Lake Anna’s users; and

WHEREAS, research shows that it takes 200 feet for a 2 to 3-foot wave to dissipate before damaging the shoreline.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA THAT THE Board agrees that, in order to support law enforcement on Lake Anna and to promote safety on the water, it supports a consistent requirement that no person shall operate any motorboat or vessel towing an individual(s) on skis, tubes, or any similar device, or on surfboard or any similar device including wakeboarding, wake skating and wake surfing, within *200 feet or less* of the shoreline, docks, piers, and boathouses, and it agrees to support this application to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for implementation on Lake Anna.

(SEAL)

A COPY TESTE: -----

Aimee R. Mann
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Supervisors