Question on Notice

No. 1093

Asked on 09 June 2006

MR FENLON asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS)—

QUESTION:

Will he outline the process for changing a boating licence and the regulations relating to that

process when a licence is being transferred from another State to a Queensland boating licence?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for his question-

The process for changing an interstate boating licence to a Queensland boating licence is initiated by a person making an application to Queensland Transport via a Customer Service Centre.

A person wishing to transfer his or her licence would require a completed Recreational Marine Driver / Personal Watercraft Licence Application along with the required documentation which includes such things as proof of identity.

The applicant is then issued a Recreational Marine Driver Licence under section 100 of the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004*, which allows the chief executive officer of Queensland Transport to recognise the equivalent requirements to section 99 of the Regulation.

Unlike motor vehicle driver licences, this conversion process is not mandatory. Under section 95 of the Regulation, Queensland Transport mutually recognises equivalent recreational marine licences issued by another Australian State or Territory of the Commonwealth of Australia, without the need to convert within a set time period.

The holder of a recreational marine licence issued in another state may lawfully operate a recreational vessel or personal watercraft in Queensland provided the interstate licence is current, that they operate in accordance with any conditions on the licence and that they are at least sixteen (16) years of age.

Interstate visitors who hold a licence issued under the Uniform Shipping Laws Code may also operate a recreational vessel in Queensland waters.

Interstate licence holders whose licences have expired, or applicants from a state where no marine licence is required - currently West Australia and the Northern Territory – are not covered under section 95 of the Regulation.

An applicant in such a situation would have to provide a completed Recreational Marine Driver/Personal Watercraft Licence Application plus evidence they meet Queensland's competency requirements with either a Statement of Competency issued by a BoatSafe Training Provider or a Statement of Competency issued by a BoatSafe Assessor.

Only the original can be accepted as proof of competency when issuing a licence. If this is lost the applicant should be directed back to the issuing authority for a replacement.