

# MRAA MEMBERS I WANT YOU



## At the American Boating Congress

**MAY 8-10, 2023 – WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Over the course of the last year, more issues than ever have threatened to cost your business time and money, compromise your ability to sell boats and finance products, restrict access for your customers, or simply cause you more headaches than you could ever imagine.

As a marine retailer and member of the MRAA Board of Directors you are a leader in our industry's ONLY dealer association – and your voice matters – because when you speak, you represent all marine retailers. For that reason, you should make plans to attend the American Boating Congress to continue to lead and make sure that the voice of marine retailers is stronger than ever.

### What is the American Boating Congress?

The American Boating Congress is our industry's premier advocacy event and your best opportunity to discuss issues that impact your business with decision makers in Washington, D.C. Join your MRAA staff and colleagues from throughout the marine industry at ABC, take a deep dive into the issues and walk the halls of Congress to share priorities for your business and the business of boating.

### Why Should I Attend ABC?

#### ***Numerous Issues Threaten the Health of Your Business!***

- Learn the growing number of issues that threaten your business.
- Demonstrate your leadership and represent boat dealers from across the United States.
- Meet with legislators to highlight the impact your business has on your community.
- Remind Congress and industry stakeholders of the critical role retailers play in the boating industry.
- Make connections that will keep boat dealers at the table wherever boating is discussed.
- Promote a business and recreation environment where boating can thrive.
- Create a path for more dealers to advocate for boating and their business.

### How Does it Work?

*The MRAA staff will serve as your guide and make this a turnkey experience to help you maximize your advocacy impact at American Boating Congress.*

- On Tuesday, you will learn the major issues affecting boat businesses, as well as the key talking points to share with legislators on each issue.
- On Wednesday, "Hill Captains" will guide you and others from your state to pre-scheduled meetings with Members of Congress. The Hill Captains will lead the conversation and make the "asks," and you will be invited to share your business' story and the talking points you learned Tuesday.
- Throughout the event, network with other industry leaders, MRAA and NMMA board members and BoatPAC donors as well as legislators and regulators (like the Coast Guard) who attend American Boating Congress events.



# The American Boating Congress

# SCHEDULE

## Monday, May 8th

### » ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Arrival – Check in at The Intercontinental at The Wharf

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception

7:00 p.m.

Dinner with MRAA Board and Staff

## Tuesday, May 9th

### » GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Government Relations Programming - Intercontinental Hotel

Presentations TBD but typically given by:

- o Marine industry leadership
- o Members of Congress
- o Administration staff
- o Policy experts
- o Regulatory agency leadership

**PLUS Keynote Speaker:** Jonathan Martin, bureau chief and senior political columnist for POLITICO, and co-author of the book, *THIS WILL NOT PASS: Trump, Biden, and the Battle for America's Future*. Martin will speak on the ins and outs of campaigns, government, politics, and policy.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Recreational Angling and Boating Reception

## Wednesday, May 10th

### » MEET YOUR LEGISLATORS

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Breakfast and Hill Meeting Preparation – Intercontinental

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Travel to Hill Led by Hill Captains — House and Senate Offices

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Meetings with Members of Congress

3:00 p.m.

Event Concludes



REGISTER AT [WWW.NMMA.ORG/ABC](http://WWW.NMMA.ORG/ABC)