

By: Representative Flaggs

To: Game and Fish

HOUSE BILL NO. 506

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT ALL CONSERVATION OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT
3 OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS LICENSE
4 AGENTS AND MAY SELL HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING AND FISHING
5 LICENSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 SECTION 1. Section 49-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 49-7-17. (1) The department may provide for the appointment
10 of persons as license agents to sell license certificates for
11 hunting, trapping or fishing as authorized under Section 49-7-21.

12 The department may, by administrative rule, establish
13 qualifications, standards and regulations for such license agents.

14 However, all conservation officers employed by the department
15 shall be considered as license agents and may sell hunting,
16 trapping and fishing licenses.

17 (2) Each license agent shall be required to be covered under
18 a surety bond. The department may establish, by administrative
19 rule, the procedures for the bonding of its license agents, which
20 procedures may include the implementation of a blanket bonding
21 system. All premiums for surety bonds required under this section
22 shall be at the expense of the license agents. Provided, however,
23 that as an alternative to entering into a bond, as required by
24 this section, any person who shall engage as a licensed agent to
25 sell license certificates for hunting, trapping or fishing as
26 authorized under Section 49-7-21 subject to the same conditions of
27 conduct required for bonds, may deposit with the State Treasurer

28 the equivalent amount of the bond required for that particular
29 person in cash or securities. The only securities allowable for
30 this purpose are those which may legally be purchased by a bank or
31 for trust funds having a market value not less than that required
32 bond. The commission shall file notice with the Treasurer for any
33 violation of the conditions of the cash or security deposit.

34 (3) Any officer or person authorized to issue any hunting or
35 fishing license or permit or any combination game and fish license
36 under the laws of this state shall have the power and authority to
37 collect and retain for the issuance of such license the sum of One
38 Dollar (\$1.00), in addition to the license fee provided by law,
39 when such license or permit is sold to a resident of this state.
40 The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks is authorized, in
41 its discretion, to contract with license agents for services
42 rendered for an additional amount, not to exceed One Dollar
43 (\$1.00), in addition to the license fee provided by law.

44 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
45 and after July 1, 1999.