By: Senator(s) Ross, Burton, Carter, Dickerson, Furniss, Gordon, Hall, Jordan (24th), Kirby, Lee, Smith, White (29th), Johnson (19th), Ferris To: Wildlife and Fisheries

SENATE BILL NO. 2325

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OR THE RESERVES ASSIGNED TO DUTY IN MISSISSIPPI OR ANY MEMBER OF THE MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD MAY RECEIVE A RESIDENT HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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- 8 SECTION 1. Section 49-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 9 amended as follows:
- 10 49-7-3. (1) Any resident of the State of Mississippi shall
- 11 be entitled to receive a resident fishing license.
- 12 (2) Any person domiciled within the State of Mississippi
- 13 shall be entitled to receive a resident hunting license provided
- 14 in Section 49-7-5. The domicile of a person is that person's
- 15 principal or primary home or place of abode. A "principal or
- 16 primary home or place of abode" is that home or place in which a
- 17 person's habitation is fixed and to which he, whenever absent, has
- 18 the present intention of returning after a departure of absence
- 19 therefrom, regardless of the duration of the absence. The burden
- 20 of proving domicile shall be on the person claiming such status.
- 21 A person holding a current driver's license shall be deemed to be
- 22 domiciled within the state issuing the license. If a person does
- 23 not hold a current driver's license, the following evidence or
- 24 other reliable evidence may be considered in establishing, but is
- 25 not necessarily determinative of, domicile: residence for income
- or other tax purposes, homestead exemption receipt, or any other
- 27 means prescribed by the department. In the case of minors,
- 28 domicile of the parents shall be used as evidence of the minor's
- 29 domicile.

- 30 (3) A nondomiciliary of the state may be issued a resident
- 31 hunting or fishing license or combination resident hunting/fishing
- 32 license upon providing the following:
- 33 (a) A current identification card from a Mississippi
- 34 college or university; * * *
- 35 (b) A current military identification card showing that
- 36 the person is an active member of the Armed Forces, or the
- 37 Reserves, * * * and proof that the person is stationed on a
- 38 military base in Mississippi; or
- 39 (c) A current military identification card showing that
- 40 the person is an active member of the Mississippi National Guard.
- 41 (4) A holder of a resident or nonresident license is
- 42 required to carry the license on his person while engaged in
- 43 hunting, trapping or fishing. Any penalty for not carrying a
- 44 license while engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing shall be
- 45 waived if the person can verify purchase of a license prior to the
- 46 date of the violation.
- 47 (5) Each application or filing made under this section shall
- 48 include the Social Security number(s) of the applicant in
- 49 accordance with Section 93-11-64, Mississippi Code of 1972.
- 50 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 51 and after July 1, 1999.