By: Senator(s) Hewes

To: Ports and Marine Resources

## SENATE BILL NO. 2996

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO MAKE TECHNICAL REVISION RELATING TO SEAFOOD LICENSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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- 6 SECTION 1. Section 49-15-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 7 amended as follows:
- 8 49-15-29. (1) The commission shall assess and collect,
- 9 license fees and taxes as authorized under this chapter.
- 10 (2) All commercial licenses provided for under this chapter
- 11 that relate to \* \* \* seafood shall be purchased from May 1 through
- 12 April 30 at the fees herein provided. The licenses shall expire
- 13 on April 30 following the date of issuance.
- 14 (3) When an application for an original or renewal license
- 15 of any kind authorized by this chapter is received by the
- 16 commission, the commission shall determine whether the vessel or
- 17 related equipment subject to that license is owned and operated in
- 18 compliance with applicable federal and state laws. If the
- 19 commission determines that a vessel or its owner is not in
- 20 compliance with applicable federal and state laws, then no license
- 21 shall be issued or renewed for the operation of that vessel for a
- 22 period of one (1) year. All licenses shall be made available for
- 23 purchase at any building which is regularly operated by the
- 24 department or commission on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
- 25 (4) The commission may authorize any person, other than a
- 26 salaried employee of the state to issue any license under this
- 27 chapter which the commission deems appropriate. The authorized

- 28 person may collect and retain for issuance of the license the sum
- 29 of One Dollar (\$1.00) in addition to the license fee provided in
- 30 this chapter. The commission shall establish the qualifications
- 31 of persons authorized to issue licenses under this section and
- 32 shall also establish the procedure for the issuance of that
- 33 license by the authorized person and the procedure for collection
- 34 of license fees by and from the authorized person.
- 35 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 36 and after its passage.