By: Ford

To: Game and Fish

HOUSE BILL NO. 255 (As Passed the House)

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO 1 2 EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE PROVISION OF LAW THAT 3 AUTHORIZES THE COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH BAG LIMITS FOR GAME ANIMALS, BIRDS AND FISH; TO CLARIFY CERTAIN LANGUAGE CONCERNING 4 5 THE ANNUAL BAG LIMIT ON ANTLERED BUCK DEER; AND FOR RELATED 6 PURPOSES. 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: SECTION 1. Section 49-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 8 amended as follows: 9 49-7-41. (1) The commission may set the bag limits for game 10 11 animals, birds and fish, unless the bag limits are established by the Legislature by statute. This subsection shall stand repealed 12 13 on July 1, <u>2001</u>. (2) (a) The bag limit on <u>antlered</u> buck deer is one (1) buck 14 per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year. An antlered 15 buck deer must have antlers of four (4) points or greater to be 16 17 <u>taken.</u> 18 (b) The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per day, not to exceed five (5) per license year; except that two (2) 19 20 additional antlerless deer per license year may be taken with a 21 bow and arrow. Antlerless deer may be taken only in the areas prescribed by order of the commission. It is illegal to take a 22 23 spotted fawn in any season. (c) It is unlawful for a nonresident to kill an 2.4 25 antlerless deer except: (i) a nonresident may take antlerless 26 deer on lands that the title is vested in the nonresident or on 27 lands that the nonresident has leased the hunting and fishing rights; or (ii) a nonresident who has a native son or daughter 28

H. B. No. 255 00\HR40\R318PH PAGE 1 29 nonresident lifetime sportsman license or a resident lifetime 30 sportsman license may take anterless deer on private lands, 31 wildlife management areas or national wildlife refuges. 32 (3) The bag limit on antlerless deer set by this section 33 shall not apply to private lands under the deer management 34 assistance program or the fee-based antlerless program as approved 35 by the department.

36 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 37 and after July 1, 2000.