

By: Ellington

To: Conservation and
Water Resources

HOUSE BILL NO. 1320

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION THAT PROHIBITS CERTAIN
2 BOATS FROM BEING OPERATED IN COASTAL PRESERVES; AND FOR RELATED
3 PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to
6 operate airboats, aircraft, personal water craft, hover craft or
7 marsh buggies on any publicly owned and managed vegetated wetlands
8 inside the coastal preserves.

9 (2) As used in this section, the following terms shall have
10 the meanings ascribed in this subsection:

11 (a) "Operate" means to navigate or otherwise use a
12 motorboat or vessel.

13 (b) "Personal water craft" means a vessel having an
14 inboard motor that powers a water jet pump as the primary source
15 of propulsion and is designed to be operated by a person sitting,
16 standing, kneeling on, or being towed behind the vessel.

17 (3) A person violating this section is guilty of a
18 misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of
19 not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five
20 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

21 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this act shall be codified in
22 Chapter 27, Title 49, Mississippi Code of 1972.

23 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
24 and after July 1, 2000.