

By: Representative Ellington

To: Conservation and Water Resources

HOUSE BILL NO. 862
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-80, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE ANNUAL COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSES FOR VESSELS AND
3 INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN COMMERCIAL GIG FISHING; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 49-15-80, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-15-80. (1) (a) All vessels to be used in catching or
9 transporting fish in the waters of the State of Mississippi for
10 commercial purposes shall, before beginning operations, obtain an
11 annual license from the commission and pay a license fee according
12 to the following schedule:

13 (i) All resident vessels engaged in commercial
14 hook and line or gig fishing shall be issued an * * * annual
15 license by the commission at a fee of One Hundred Dollars
16 (\$100.00). All nonresident vessels engaged in commercial hook and
17 line or gig fishing shall be issued an * * * annual license by the
18 commission at a fee of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00). Each
19 individual engaged in commercial hook and line or gig fishing must
20 obtain a commercial * * * fisherman license subject to the
21 following license fees: One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for a
22 resident commercial * * * fisherman license; or Four Hundred
23 Dollars (\$400.00) for a nonresident commercial * * * fisherman
24 license. If a duly licensed commercial hook and line or gig
25 fishing vessel is engaged in commercial fishing, each individual
26 aboard must possess a commercial * * * fisherman license.

27 (ii) A resident fee of One Hundred Dollars
28 (\$100.00) or a nonresident fee of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00),
29 on boats using trammel nets, gill nets or seines not more than one
30 thousand two hundred (1,200) feet in length.

31 (b) Beginning September 15, 1994, no nonresident shall
32 be issued a commercial fishing license under this chapter for the
33 taking of fish using any type of net if that nonresident's state
34 of domicile prohibits the issuing of commercial fishing licenses
35 to residents of this state to engage in like activity.

36 (2) Each factory or manufacturing establishment engaging in
37 the manufacture of oil, fish scrap, fish meal, fertilizer or other
38 products from menhaden, shall pay a license fee of Five Hundred
39 Dollars (\$500.00).

40 (3) Each boat or vessel engaging in the catching, taking or
41 transporting menhaden in the waters of the State of Mississippi,
42 the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and shall pay Fifty
43 Dollars (\$50.00) on each net, seine, trawl or purse net used in
44 catching or taking menhaden in the waters of the State of
45 Mississippi.

46 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
47 and after July 1, 2001.