

By: Representative Pierce

To: Game and Fish

HOUSE BILL NO. 1306

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT COMMERCIAL FISHING IN THE PASCAGOULA RIVER  
2 SYSTEM; TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ACT; AND FOR  
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) It is unlawful for any person, firm or  
6 corporation to engage in commercial fishing in any connected or  
7 nonconnected oxbow lake or tributary stream of the Pascagoula  
8 River where the main channel of the Pascagoula River is bordered  
9 by the Upper Pascagoula River Wildlife Management Area, the lower  
10 Pascagoula River Wildlife Management Area or the Ward Bayou  
11 Wildlife Management Area.

12 (2) Any person, firm or corporation that violates the  
13 provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon  
14 conviction, shall be fined not less than Two Hundred Dollars  
15 (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the  
16 first offense; not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor  
17 more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the second offense  
18 when the second offense is committed within a period of three (3)  
19 years after the date on which the first offense was committed; and  
20 not less that Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) nor more than Four  
21 Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00), or imprisonment in the county jail  
22 for a period of not more than thirty (30) days for a third or  
23 subsequent offense, when that offense is committed within a period  
24 of three (3) years after the date on which the first offense was  
25 committed.

26           Any fine or sentence, or both, imposed upon a person for a  
27 second, third or subsequent offense under this section shall not  
28 be suspended or reduced.

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