AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCREASE THE LICENSE FEE TO OBTAIN A HUNTING LICENSE FOR LOUISIANA RESIDENTS TO FOUR TIMES THE AMOUNT LOUISIANA CHARGES MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS FOR A SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 49-7-8, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

49-7-8. (1) No nonresident sixteen (16) years of age or older may hunt, fish, kill, take or trap any game animal, bird or fish without having acquired and having in his immediate possession a valid license issued by the Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

(2) The commission shall have the following duties and powers:

(a) To prescribe the forms and types of nonresident licenses that a nonresident must obtain;

(b) To determine the total number of each type of nonresident license to be issued annually;

(c) To establish fees for nonresident licenses and the collection fees for the agent issuing such licenses; provided, however, that the fee for a nonresident all game hunting license shall not be less than Sixty Dollars ($60.00) and the fee for a nonresident hunting license issued by Mississippi to a Louisiana resident shall be equal to the fee charged a resident of Mississippi by Louisiana for issuance of a saltwater fishing license multiplied by a factor of four (4).
(d) To exercise all incidental powers necessary to develop a nonresident licensing program.

(3) A nonresident who violates this section or any licensing regulation of the commission is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in Section 49-7-21(3).

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