

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife and Fisheries

SENATE BILL NO. 2518

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT VESSELS WITH ALTERED IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS ARE
3 SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE IF OWNERSHIP CANNOT BE DETERMINED; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 59-21-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 59-21-33. All vessels, outboard motors, boats and trailers
9 having awarded numbers or identification numbers or marks which
10 have been removed, changed, mutilated or defaced contrary to this
11 chapter are subject to forfeiture. Any such property shall be
12 seized by any conservation officer or enforcement officer of the
13 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, or other officer of
14 the law including any sheriff or deputy sheriff. If ownership of
15 the seized property cannot be determined, the property shall be
16 contraband and subject to forfeiture. Upon the seizure of such
17 property, forfeiture proceedings shall be instituted pursuant to
18 Sections 49-7-251 through 49-7-257. Provided, however, that any
19 such property which has previously been registered or titled
20 within the State of Mississippi is not subject to forfeiture if
21 the application for registration or title contained no false or
22 fraudulent information, or if the property seized has a value less
23 than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

24 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
25 and after its passage.