

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott

To: Ports and Marine Resources

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2526

1 AN ACT TO CREATE CODE SECTION 49-15-92, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR THE THEFT OF CRAB POTS; TO REPEAL  
3 SECTION 97-17-58, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH ESTABLISHES  
4 PENALTIES FOR THEFT OF CRAB POTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 SECTION 1. The following section shall be codified as

7 Section 49-15-92, Mississippi Code of 1972:

8 49-15-92. (1) Any person who feloniously steals, takes and  
9 carries away crab pots or the property of another used to catch  
10 saltwater crabs from crab pots is guilty of a misdemeanor, and on  
11 conviction shall be fined Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for the  
12 first offense; Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for the second  
13 offense; and One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the third and  
14 subsequent offenses or may be imprisoned in the county jail for a  
15 term not to exceed ninety (90) days, or both fine and  
16 imprisonment.

17 (2) This section shall not apply to any person who removes  
18 crab pots that are illegally placed or in an illegal location.

19 This section shall not apply to any person who catches abandoned  
20 crab pots in a shrimp trawl, keeps the crab pots aboard the vessel  
21 and properly disposes of the crab pots.

22 SECTION 2. Section 97-17-58, Mississippi Code of 1972, which  
23 establishes penalties for theft of crab pots, is repealed.

24 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
25 and after July 1, 2001.