

By: Senator(s) Hewes

To: Ports and Marine Resources

SENATE BILL NO. 2530

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-80, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE FOR A COMMERCIAL GIG FISHING LICENSE; AND FOR RELATED  
3 PURPOSES.

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

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

7 49-15-80. (1) (a) All vessels to be used in catching or  
8 transporting fish in the waters of the State of Mississippi for  
9 commercial purposes shall, before beginning operations, obtain an  
10 annual license from the commission and pay a license fee according  
11 to the following schedule:

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

26 (ii) A resident fee of One Hundred Dollars  
27 (\$100.00) or a nonresident fee of Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00),

28 on boats using trammel nets, gill nets or seines not more than one  
29 thousand two hundred (1,200) feet in length.

30 (iii) All resident vessels engaged in commercial  
31 gig fishing shall be issued a separate annual license by the  
32 commission at a fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). All  
33 nonresident vessels engaged in commercial gig fishing shall be  
34 issued a separate annual license by the commission at a fee of  
35 Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00). Each individual engaged in  
36 commercial gig fishing must obtain a commercial gig fisherman  
37 license subject to the following license fees: resident  
38 commercial gig fisherman license One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00); or  
39 for a nonresident commercial gig fisherman license Four Hundred  
40 Dollars (\$400.00). If a duly licensed commercial gig fishing  
41 vessel is engaged in commercial fishing, each individual aboard  
42 must possess a commercial gig fisherman license.

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

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

52 (3) Each boat or vessel engaging in the catching, taking or  
53 transporting menhaden in the waters of the State of Mississippi,  
54 the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) and shall pay Fifty  
55 Dollars (\$50.00) on each net, seine, trawl or purse net used in  
56 catching or taking menhaden in the waters of the State of  
57 Mississippi.

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