

By: Senator(s) Gollott, Cuevas

To: Wildlife and Fisheries

SENATE BILL NO. 2600

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS CHARGE
3 RECIPROCAL LICENSE FEES FOR CONTIGUOUS STATES; TO AMEND SECTION
4 49-15-30, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE COMMISSION ON
5 MARINE RESOURCES TO CHARGE RECIPROCAL LICENSE FEES FOR CONTIGUOUS
6 STATES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

10 49-7-8. (1) No nonresident sixteen (16) years of age or
11 older may hunt, fish, kill, take or trap any game animal, bird or
12 fish without having acquired and having in his immediate
13 possession a valid license issued by the Mississippi Commission on
14 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

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

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

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

21 (c) To establish fees for nonresident licenses and the
22 collection fees for the agent issuing such licenses; provided,
23 however, that the fee for a nonresident all game hunting license
24 shall not be less than Sixty Dollars (\$60.00);

25 (d) To exercise all incidental powers necessary to
26 develop a nonresident licensing program.

27 (3) (a) The commission shall require residents of
28 contiguous states to pay a nonresident fee at least equal to the

29 nonresident fee that a resident of Mississippi pays in the
30 contiguous state or the fee established in a reciprocity
31 agreement.

32 (b) If a contiguous state does not permit the sale of
33 nonresident licenses to a resident of Mississippi or if the
34 contiguous state does not have a reciprocity agreement with
35 Mississippi, then the commission shall not issue a nonresident
36 license to the person from that state.

37 (c) If an contiguous state charges a resident of
38 Mississippi a greater fee than it charges residents of other
39 states, then the commission shall establish an appropriate fee for
40 the nonresident of that contiguous state.

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

44 SECTION 2. Section 49-15-30, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
45 amended as follows:

46 49-15-30. (1) The commission may promulgate rules and
47 regulations for nonresident permits in order to promote reciprocal
48 agreements with other states.

49 (2) The commission shall provide that residents of other
50 states bordering on the Gulf of Mexico who are applicants for
51 a * * * license of any type as provided for in this chapter shall
52 pay the same fee or fees that a resident of this state pays in the
53 applicant's state for that license or the fees established in a
54 reciprocity agreement. * * *

55 (3) The commission shall require a nonresident to purchase
56 the same type and number of licenses and pay the same fees that
57 are required of Mississippi residents to engage in like activity
58 in the nonresident's state.

59 (4) If an applicant applies for a * * * license to engage in
60 a certain activity and the applicant's state does not permit the
61 sale of such license to a resident of Mississippi or if the state

62 does not have a reciprocity agreement with Mississippi, then the
63 commission shall not issue such license to the applicant.

64 (5) If a state bordering on the Gulf of Mexico charges a
65 resident of Mississippi a fee greater than the state charges
66 residents of other states, then the commission shall establish an
67 appropriate fee for a resident of that state.

68 (6) Any nonresident who engages in the * * * taking of
69 seafood within the territorial waters of Mississippi without
70 having the required nonresident * * * license is guilty of a
71 misdemeanor and shall be fined Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)
72 and shall forfeit any equipment, gear or nets used in the offense.

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