

By: The Entire Membership

To: Game and Fish; County Affairs

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 865

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-201, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT THE BEAVER CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH
3 THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS REQUIRED TO BE
4 CONTRIBUTED BY A COUNTY THAT DESIRES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BEAVER
5 CONTROL AND ERADICATION PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-203,
6 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
7 OF THE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS SHALL BE A MEMBER OF
8 THE BEAVER CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-201, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 49-7-201. (1) There is hereby established a beaver control
13 program which shall be developed by the Beaver Control Advisory
14 Board created in Section 49-7-203 and administered by the
15 Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks with the
16 advice of the board or administered by a federal agency pursuant
17 to an agreement with the commission for such purpose. The program
18 shall be limited to the control or eradication of beavers only on
19 private lands or public lands, excluding federally owned lands but
20 including lands whereupon easements are granted to a federal
21 entity. The commission may employ such personnel as is necessary
22 to implement its duties to administer the program and set the
23 salary of such personnel subject to State Personnel Board
24 guidelines.

25 (2) Any state, local or private funds available to the
26 commission to fund the program shall be used to match federal
27 funds available for such purpose. The commission may execute such
28 agreements with any agency of the federal government as are
29 necessary to obtain federal matching funds to finance the beaver
30 control program.



31 (3) Nonfederal funds to help finance the program may be
32 obtained by the commission from the following sources:

- 33 (a) Appropriations by the Legislature;
34 (b) Contributions from participating counties;
35 (c) Charges on participating landowners; and/or
36 (d) Contributions from any other sources for such
37 purpose.

38 (4) (a) Any county in the state desiring to participate in
39 the program during its fiscal year shall contribute an amount
40 established by the Beaver Control Advisory Board not to exceed
41 Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) for such purpose from any funds
42 available in its general fund. Such county shall commit such
43 funds to the program for the ensuing fiscal year by adopting and
44 submitting a resolution to that effect on or before August 1 to
45 the commission. The commission shall establish the due date for
46 the payment of contributions by counties.

47 (b) The sum of county contributions may be matched by
48 nonfederal funds available to the state for the beaver control
49 program.

50 (5) Participating landowner means any person, corporation or
51 association owning land in this state and taking part in the
52 beaver control program.

53 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-203, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
54 amended as follows:

55 49-7-203. (1) There is hereby created the Beaver Control
56 Advisory Board which shall be composed of the administrative heads
57 of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks,
58 State Forestry Commission, Department of Agriculture and Commerce,
59 Mississippi Department of Transportation and Mississippi State
60 Cooperative Extension Services and the Executive Director of the
61 Mississippi Association of Supervisors.



62 (2) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of
63 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall be the chairman of the board
64 and shall preside over meetings.

65 (3) The members of the board shall serve without
66 compensation but all members of the board except for the Executive
67 Director of the Mississippi Association of Supervisors shall be
68 entitled to reimbursement for all actual and necessary expenses
69 incurred in the discharge of their duties, including mileage as
70 authorized by law.

71 (4) The board shall have the following duties and
72 responsibilities:

73 (a) To adopt rules and regulations governing times and
74 places for meetings and governing the manner of conducting its
75 business;

76 (b) To develop a beaver control program to be
77 administered by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
78 and Parks or by a federal agency pursuant to an agreement with the
79 commission for such purpose;

80 (c) To designate the areas of the state having the
81 greatest need for beaver control or eradication and establish a
82 list of priority areas on an annual basis;

83 (d) To recommend to the Mississippi Commission on
84 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks such fees as may be necessary to
85 charge participating landowners; and

86 (e) To function in an advisory capacity to the
87 Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks regarding
88 the implementation of the beaver control program.

89 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
90 and after July 1, 2002.

