

By: Representative Taylor

To: Game and Fish

HOUSE BILL NO. 55

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT RESIDENTS OF THIS STATE WHO ARE ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS
3 OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES AND WHO ARE ON LEAVE IN THIS
4 STATE SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM PROCURING A HUNTING OR FISHING LICENSE;
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 49-7-5. (1) (a) Any resident, as defined in Section
10 49-7-3, upon application, shall receive a combination resident
11 hunting and fishing license for the sum of Seventeen Dollars
12 (\$17.00). Such license shall qualify the licensee to hunt under
13 this chapter all game and fowl, including deer and turkey, and to
14 fish in any county of the state.

15 (b) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
16 application, shall receive a resident combination small game
17 hunting and fishing license for the sum of Thirteen Dollars
18 (\$13.00) together with the fee provided in Section 49-7-17 to the
19 office or agent issuing such license. Such hunting license shall
20 qualify the licensee to hunt and fish under this chapter all game
21 and fowl, except deer and turkey, in any county in the state.

22 (c) Any resident of the State of Mississippi, as
23 defined in Section 49-7-3, upon application, shall receive a
24 resident small game license, and for it shall pay the issuing
25 officer or agent the sum of Thirteen Dollars (\$13.00), together
26 with the fee provided in Section 49-7-17 to the officer or agent
27 issuing such license. Such hunting license shall qualify the
28 person holding the same to hunt under the provisions of this



29 chapter, and in season, all game and fowl, except deer and turkey,
30 in any county in the state.

31 (d) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
32 application, shall receive a sportsman's license for the sum of
33 Thirty-two Dollars (\$32.00). Such license shall qualify the
34 licensee to hunt under this chapter all game and fowl, including
35 deer and turkey, and to fish as provided by law, in any county in
36 the state, and to hunt using primitive weapons and bow and arrow
37 in the manner provided by law. The commission may notify the
38 licensee of the expiration of his license, and the licensee may
39 renew the license by mailing the sum of Thirty-two Dollars
40 (\$32.00) to the commission. A licensee who has not renewed the
41 license within thirty (30) days after the expiration date shall be
42 removed from the commission's records, and the licensee must apply
43 to be placed on the renewal list.

44 (2) (a) Any resident citizen of the State of Mississippi
45 who has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years or who has
46 reached the age of sixty-five (65) years, or any resident citizen
47 who is blind, paraplegic, or a multiple amputee, or who has been
48 adjudged by the Veterans Administration as having a total
49 service-connected disability, or has been adjudged to be totally
50 disabled by the Social Security Administration shall not be
51 required to purchase or have in his possession, a hunting or
52 fishing license while engaged in such activities. A person exempt
53 by reason of total service-connected disability, as adjudged by
54 the Veterans Administration or who has been adjudged to be totally
55 disabled by the Social Security Administration or who is blind,
56 paraplegic or a multiple amputee, shall have in their possession
57 and on their person proof of their age, residency, disability
58 status or other respective physical impairment while engaged in
59 the activities of hunting or fishing.



60 (b) All exempt hunting and fishing licenses previously
61 issued for disabilities shall be null and void effective July 1,
62 1993.

63 (c) The commission may offer a youth all-game hunting
64 and fishing license for exempt youths who have a hunter education
65 certificate and an all-game hunting and fishing license for other
66 persons exempted under paragraph (a). Youths and other exempt
67 persons shall not be required to purchase this license or have it
68 in possession while hunting or fishing. The commission may
69 establish a fee not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00) for such
70 licenses.

71 (3) No license shall be required of residents to hunt, fish
72 or trap on lands in which the record title is vested in such
73 person.

74 (4) A resident of the State of Mississippi who is an active
75 duty member of the United States Armed Forces and who is on leave
76 in this state is exempt from procuring a license under this
77 chapter to hunt all game and fowl, including deer and turkey, and
78 to fish in any county of the state; however, such person must have
79 in his possession, at all times while engaged in such activities,
80 sufficient papers or documentation evidencing his membership in
81 the Armed Forces and his current leave status.

82 (5) Any person or persons exempt under this section from
83 procuring a license shall be subject to and must comply with all
84 other terms and provisions of this chapter.

85 (6) Any person authorized to issue any license under this
86 section may collect and retain for the issuance of each license
87 the additional fee authorized under Section 49-7-17.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
89 and after July 1, 2003.

