

By: Senator(s) Gollott, Dawkins

To: Ports and Marine Resources

SENATE BILL NO. 2429

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-76, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO ALLOW THE SALE OF COBIA CAUGHT IN MISSISSIPPI WATERS; AND FOR
3 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-15-76, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 49-15-76. (1) It is unlawful for any person to sell, barter
8 or trade or to offer for sale, barter or trade any game fish
9 enumerated in Chapter 15 of Title 49, Mississippi Code of 1972;
10 except as provided under this section.

11 (2) Cobia may be sold in this state * * *. Any individual,
12 partnership, corporation or other entity which sells cobia in this
13 state shall maintain documentation showing the state of purchase
14 and date of purchase of cobia for a period of sixty (60) days from
15 the date of purchase of the cobia. The Department of Marine
16 Resources or any other law enforcement agency with which the
17 department has a cooperating agreement may require any seller of
18 cobia to document the date and state of purchase.

19 (3) Any person who cultivates a game fish as permitted under
20 the Mississippi Aquaculture Act of 1988 may sell the game fish in
21 accordance with the marine aquaculture program.

22 (4) A person who violates this section shall be punished as
23 provided in Section 49-15-63.

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

