

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott, Cuevas,
Dawkins

To: Ports and Marine
Resources

SENATE BILL NO. 2651

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-64.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CHANGE MARINE WATER BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION TO CONFORM TO NEW
3 CHANNEL MARKER NUMBERS ESTABLISHED BY UNITED STATES COAST GUARD;
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-15-64.1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-15-64.1. The shrimp season shall open on the first
9 Wednesday of June. The shrimp season shall be closed from January
10 1 until it is opened the first Wednesday of June, except south of
11 the intercoastal waterway. The shrimp season shall be closed
12 south of the intercoastal waterway from May 1 until it is opened
13 the first Wednesday of June. For the purposes of this section
14 only, that portion of the intercoastal waterway that extends from
15 a point south of Long Beach to a point south of Point Clear is
16 described as follows:

17 Begin at green buoy or beacon number 1 which is located
18 approximately three (3) miles north of West Point on Cat
19 Island, thence extending southwesterly to buoy or beacon
20 number 4P, thence southwesterly to Pass Marianne Light,
21 thence southwesterly to buoy or beacon number 15P at the
22 northernmost point of Merrill Coquille, thence
23 southwesterly to buoy or beacon number 17P, thence
24 southwesterly to buoy or beacon number 22, thence
25 westerly to Lighthouse Point and continuing westward
26 following the meandering of the shoreline to the
27 boundary line of the state.



28 The commission, by majority vote, may open the season at an
29 earlier or later date in designated areas only after sampling
30 areas within its jurisdiction where shrimp may be caught for the
31 purpose of determining the count of shrimp per pound. The
32 commission may also, by majority vote, close certain designated
33 areas where the shrimp count is found, by sampling, to be in
34 excess of sixty-eight (68) per pound. The following waters are
35 protective and staging areas for young shrimp, and are permanently
36 closed to commercial and recreational shrimping activities:

37 All waters north of a line beginning at a point one-half mile
38 due South of the shoreline at the Mississippi-Alabama state
39 boundary; thence running westerly following the meanderings of the
40 shoreline one-half mile therefrom to Light "5" in the Bayou
41 Casotte Channel; thence running northerly to Light "7" in the
42 Bayou Casotte Channel; thence running westerly following the
43 meanderings of the shoreline one-half mile therefrom to the
44 intersection with the Pascagoula Channel; thence running
45 northwesterly to Beacon "50" in the Pascagoula Channel; thence
46 running southwesterly to Beacon "49" in the Pascagoula Channel;
47 thence running in the most direct line to the northeast point of
48 Singing River Island; thence running westerly along the north
49 shoreline to the northwest point of Singing River Island; thence
50 running northwesterly to a point one-half mile due south of the
51 mouth of Graveline Bayou; thence running westerly following the
52 meanderings of the shoreline one-half mile therefrom to Beacon
53 "18" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running northwesterly to
54 Beacon "22" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence running
55 northwesterly to Beacon "26" in the Biloxi Bay Channel; thence
56 running westerly to Beacon "34", exclusive of the Biloxi Channel
57 itself; thence running westerly to Beacon "30" in the Biloxi
58 Channel, exclusive of the Biloxi Channel itself; and thence
59 running due South to a point on the north shore of Deer Island;
60 thence running westerly following the north shore of Deer Island



61 to the westernmost tip; thence running westerly in the most direct
62 line to Biloxi Beacon "8"; thence running westerly following the
63 meanderings of the shoreline at a distance of one-half mile
64 therefrom to a point on the centerline of the CSX Railroad Bridge
65 over St. Louis Bay; thence running westerly along the centerline
66 of said bridge to a point one-half mile south of the western
67 abutment; thence running southwesterly following the meanderings
68 of the shoreline, at a distance of one-half mile therefrom, to a
69 point one-half mile due East of the mouth of Bayou Caddy; thence
70 running due West to the mouth of Bayou Caddy; thence running
71 southwesterly following the meanderings of the shoreline to the
72 southernmost point of the Mississippi shoreline on the east bank
73 of the mouth of the Pearl River thence following the meanderings
74 of the east bank of the Pearl River to a point where the east bank
75 of the Pearl River intersects the centerline of the Highway 90
76 bridge; thence westerly along the centerline of the Highway 90
77 bridge to a point that intersects the Mississippi-Louisiana state
78 boundary. The redesignation of beacon numbers by the United
79 States Coast Guard shall not alter the description of the boundary
80 described in this section.

81 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
82 and after its passage.

