

By: Representative Taylor

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 37

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, 2004.