

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2898

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 ALLOW PERSONS LESS THAN 16 YEARS OLD TO TAKE BUCKS WITH LESS THAN
3 4 POINTS; TO ALLOW SUCH BUCKS TO BE TAKEN ON DMAP LANDS WHEN
4 NECESSARY TO MANAGE DEER; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-7-41. (1) The commission may set the bag limits for game
9 animals, birds and fish, unless the bag limits are established by
10 the Legislature by statute.

11 (2) (a) The bag limit on antlered deer is one (1) per day,
12 not to exceed three (3) per license year. An antlered deer must
13 have antlers of four (4) points or greater to be taken except as
14 provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection.

15 (b) Any antlered deer * * * may be taken by permit when
16 it is necessary to manage deer on lands under the deer management
17 assistance program or wildlife management areas. A written
18 management justification issued by the Department of Wildlife,
19 Fisheries and Parks must accompany any request for such a permit.
20 Any antlered deer * * * harvested under this permit must be
21 identified with a tag immediately upon possession. Antlered deer
22 taken by permit shall not be subject to the daily bag limit
23 or * * * the annual bag limit on antlered deer. The department
24 shall include a report on permits issued, to whom issued and deer
25 harvested in the department's annual deer program report.

26 (c) An antlered deer with less than four (4) points may
27 be taken by any person less than sixteen (16) years old.

28 (3) (a) The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per
29 day, not to exceed three (3) per license year; except that two (2)
30 additional antlerless deer per license year may be taken with a
31 bow and arrow. Antlerless deer may be taken only in the areas
32 prescribed by order of the commission. It is illegal to take a
33 spotted fawn in any season.

34 (b) It is unlawful for a nonresident to kill an
35 antlerless deer except: (i) a nonresident may take antlerless
36 deer on lands that the title is vested in the nonresident or on
37 lands that the nonresident has leased the hunting and fishing
38 rights; or (ii) a nonresident who has a native son or daughter
39 nonresident lifetime sportsman license or a resident lifetime
40 sportsman license may take antlerless deer on private lands,
41 wildlife management areas or national wildlife refuges.

42 (4) The bag limit on antlerless deer set by this section
43 shall not apply to private lands under the deer management
44 assistance program or the fee-based antlerless program as approved
45 by the department.

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