

By: Representative Robinson (84th)

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks; Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 690

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-17-93, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO EXEMPT WILDLIFE CONSERVATION OFFICERS FROM THE PROHIBITION  
3 AGAINST ENTERING THE LANDS OF ANOTHER WITHOUT PERMISSION; AND FOR  
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 97-17-93, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 97-17-93. (1) Any person who knowingly enters the lands of  
9 another without the permission of or without being accompanied by  
10 the landowner or the lessee of the land, or the agent of such  
11 landowner or lessee, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon  
12 conviction, shall be punished for the first offense by a fine of  
13 not less than One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) nor more than  
14 Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). Upon conviction of any  
15 person for a second or subsequent offense, the offenses being  
16 committed within five (5) years of the last offense, such person  
17 shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty  
18 Dollars (\$250.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00),  
19 and may be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less  
20 than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine  
21 and imprisonment.

22 This section shall not apply to the landowner's or lessee's  
23 family, guests, or agents, to a surveyor as provided in Section  
24 73-13-103, to wildlife conservation officers in performance of  
25 their lawful duties, or to persons entering upon such lands for  
26 lawful business purposes.

27 (2) (a) It shall be the duty of sheriffs, deputy sheriffs,  
28 constables and conservation officers to enforce this section.

29                   (b) Such officers shall enforce this section by issuing  
30 a citation to those charged with trespassing under this section.

31                   (3) The provisions of this section are supplementary to the  
32 provisions of any other statute of this state.

33                   (4) A prosecution under the provisions of this section shall  
34 be dismissed upon the request of the landowner, lessee of the land  
35 or agent of such landowner or lessee, as the case may be.

36                   **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
37 and after July 1, 2006.