

By: Representative Stringer

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
ParksCOMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1089

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND
2 PARKS TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROJECT ALLOWING THE HUNTING OF DEER
3 OVER GRAIN OR SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD IN AMITE, CLARKE, FORREST, GEORGE,
4 GREENE, HARRISON, JACKSON, JASPER, JEFFERSON DAVIS, JONES, KEMPER,
5 LAMAR, LAUDERDALE, MARION, NESHOPA, NEWTON, PEARL RIVER, PERRY,
6 PIKE, SMITH, STONE, WALTHALL, WAYNE AND WILKINSON COUNTIES; TO
7 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO FILE A
8 REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF
9 THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIRMAN
10 OF THE SENATE WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS COMMITTEE AND TO
11 INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT ITS RECOMMENDATION AS TO THE FEASIBILITY OF
12 ESTABLISHING THE PILOT PROJECT ON A STATEWIDE BASIS; TO AMEND
13 SECTION 49-7-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972; TO PRESCRIBE A PENALTY
14 FOR HUNTING DEER OVER GRAIN EXCEPT AS AUTHORIZED BY THIS ACT; AND
15 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

17 **SECTION 1.** The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
18 shall establish a pilot project allowing the hunting of deer over
19 grain or supplemental food. The project shall be limited to
20 Amite, Clarke, Forrest, George, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper,
21 Jefferson Davis, Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Marion,
22 Neshoba, Newton, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Smith, Stone, Walthall,
23 Wayne and Wilkinson Counties, and shall be managed and conducted
24 strictly in accordance with such rules and regulations as the
25 commission may establish. The commission may require a person
26 desiring to participate in the pilot project to obtain a permit
27 for such privilege but may not charge or collect a fee for such
28 permit. The commission shall have the Department of Wildlife,
29 Fisheries and Parks study and analyze all relevant data and issues
30 with regard to the project, including, but not limited to, the
31 impact that the project has upon the health and density of deer
32 populations and other wildlife, its effect on surrounding habitat,
33 the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement, the extent to which

34 hunters who participate in the project are successful in
35 harvesting deer and are supportive of the project, the perception
36 of the project by the general public, and the extent to which the
37 project has a favorable impact on economic development and
38 tourism.

39 On or before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session of the
40 Legislature, the department shall file a report of its findings
41 and recommendations concerning the pilot project with the Chairman
42 of the House Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committee and the
43 Chairman of the Senate Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committee.
44 The department shall include in its report its recommendation as
45 to the feasibility of establishing the pilot project on a
46 statewide basis.

47 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
48 amended as follows:

49 49-7-33. (1) It is unlawful to hunt, trap or kill any wild
50 bird or wild animal of any kind with the aid of bait, recordings
51 of bird or animal calls, or electrically amplified imitations of
52 calls of any kind, except a person:

53 (a) May use electrically amplified sound devices for
54 hunting coyote and crow;

55 (b) May use liquid scents for any animal or bird; and

56 (c) May use lures for trapping furbearing animals,
57 beaver, coyote, fox and nutria according to regulations adopted by
58 the commission.

59 (2) The commission, in its discretion, may relax the
60 restrictions regarding the use of lures or sound devices if a
61 condition arises or exists, as decided by the State Board of
62 Health or county board of health, that may endanger persons or
63 livestock in a certain community, county or area.

64 (3) A person may use bait to trap wild hogs as defined in
65 Section 49-7-140 during the period between the end of Spring
66 turkey season and the beginning of deer season with bow and arrow.

67 (4) Any person who violates this section and does not have
68 the permit provided in Section 1 of this act commits a misdemeanor
69 punishable as a class III violation as provided under Section
70 49-7-101.

71 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
72 and after July 1, 2006, and shall stand repealed on July 1, 2010.