

By: Representative Barnett

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 1144
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND
2 PARKS TO INVENTORY THE NUMBER, LOCATION AND SIZE OF WILD ANIMAL
3 ENCLOSURES AND THE TYPES OF NONNATIVE ANIMALS HELD IN SUCH
4 ENCLOSURES; TO CLARIFY THE DUTIES AND POWERS RELATED TO WILD
5 ANIMAL ENCLOSURES OF THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND
6 PARKS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS; AND FOR
7 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and
10 Parks and the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall
11 have plenary power to regulate all commercial and noncommercial
12 wild animal enclosures in order to conserve and protect native
13 wildlife for all citizens to enjoy and to protect our recreational
14 economy dependent on native wildlife resources.

15 (2) The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall
16 regulate any facility that prevents the free ingress and egress of
17 native or nonnative cervids as the same are defined by the
18 commission. The commission may promulgate rules and regulations
19 requiring the issuance of permits and the payment of a reasonable
20 fee therefor. Regulations promulgated under this authority must
21 have a majority vote of the commission to be adopted.

22 (3) This section shall repeal on July 1, 2009.

23 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
24 shall take inventory of the number, location and size of all wild
25 animal enclosures in the state and the types of animals held or
26 hunted in such enclosures. The department shall file a report
27 with the Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committees of the Senate
28 and the House of Representatives before January 3, 2007.

29 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
30 and after its passage.