

By: Representatives Bondurant, Robinson
(84th)

To: Constitution

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING TO AMEND THE MISSISSIPPI
2 CONSTITUTION OF 1890 BY ADDING A NEW SECTION ESTABLISHING THE
3 RIGHT TO HUNT, FISH AND TRAP WILDLIFE AND FISH AS A CONSTITUTIONAL
4 RIGHT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
6 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi
7 Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the
8 state:

9 Amend the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 by adding a new
10 section to read as follows:

11 "Section _____. (1) Hunting, trapping and fishing and the
12 taking of wild animals, birds and fish are a valued part of our
13 state's heritage and shall be preserved forever for the people.
14 Fish and wildlife management, including taking, is consistent with
15 the state's duty to protect this heritage and to conserve wild
16 animals, birds and fish.

17 (2) Fish and wildlife shall be managed by laws and
18 regulations that provide persons with the continued opportunity to
19 take, by traditional means and methods, species traditionally
20 pursued by hunters, anglers and trappers.

21 (3) Hunting, fishing or trapping by sportsmen shall always
22 be a preferred and available means of controlling all invasive or
23 overpopulated species.

24 (4) Any person who is licensed to hunt, fish or trap and who
25 is adversely affected by a failure to comply with this section has
26 a private cause of action to enforce this section.

27 (5) The right of the people to hunt, fish, trap and harvest
28 game is subject only to such regulations and restrictions as the
29 Legislature may prescribe by general law.

30 (6) It is the public policy of the state to promote the
31 public and private acquisition, approval, construction and
32 operation of shooting ranges and other facilities where persons
33 may acquire and enhance their training and skills to hunt and
34 harvest game safely, efficiently and humanely."

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proposed amendment shall be
36 submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified electors at
37 an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday
38 of November 2006, as provided by Section 273 of the Constitution
39 and by general law.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed
41 amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed
42 constitutional amendment establishes hunting, trapping and fishing
43 and the taking of wild animals, birds and fish as a constitutional
44 right subject only to such regulations and restrictions as the
45 Legislature may prescribe by general law. The amendment also
46 promotes as state public policy the acquisition and operation of
47 public and private shooting ranges and other facilities to enhance
48 the training and skills of persons to hunt and harvest game."