

By: Senator(s) Hyde-Smith

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2095

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-153, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT RESIDENT VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING A PERIOD OF  
3 WAR OR ARMED CONFLICT MAY PURCHASE A LIFETIME HUNTING AND FISHING  
4 LICENSE AT A REDUCED FEE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 49-7-153. (1) (a) Any resident may purchase a lifetime  
9 sportsman hunting and fishing license by filing an application in  
10 the office of the department. The license shall qualify the  
11 licensee to take all fish, game and fowl, except waterfowl,  
12 including deer and turkey, in the manner provided by law. The  
13 license shall also permit the licensee to hunt with primitive  
14 weapons and bow and arrow, and to fish in the public waters of the  
15 state, including the taking of crabs, oysters, shrimp and any  
16 saltwater fish authorized to be taken under a recreational  
17 license.

18 (b) Any resident who is:

19 (i) A veteran who served in the active Armed  
20 Forces of the United States during a period of war or armed  
21 conflict and was granted an honorable discharge; or

22 (ii) An active member of the Armed Forces of the  
23 United States and has served during a period of war or armed  
24 conflict; may purchase a lifetime sportsman hunting and fishing  
25 license at fifty percent (50%) of the fee.

26 (c) The commission shall establish proof of veteran  
27 status for purchase of a lifetime sportsman license at the reduced  
28 fee.

29                   (d) For purposes of this section, "armed forces" means  
30 the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast  
31 Guard.

32           (2) The department may issue a resident lifetime sportsman  
33 license at a fee to be determined by the commission at an amount  
34 not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for a person  
35 thirteen (13) years of age or older and not less than Five Hundred  
36 Dollars (\$500.00) for a person under thirteen (13) years of age.  
37 All lifetime licenses shall be issued from the office of the  
38 department. Each application for a lifetime license must be  
39 accompanied by a certified copy of the birth certificate of the  
40 individual to be named as the license holder, if the individual is  
41 twelve (12) years of age or under.

42           (3) The commission shall establish proof of residency  
43 requirements for the purchase of a lifetime license, and shall  
44 also establish such restrictions on and regulations for lifetime  
45 licenses as it deems necessary and proper. An applicant for a  
46 resident lifetime license must have been domiciled in this state  
47 for eighteen (18) consecutive months immediately preceding the  
48 date of his application for a license. The burden of proving  
49 domicile shall be on the applicant.

50           (4) \* \* \* The department may issue a native son or daughter  
51 nonresident lifetime sportsman hunting and fishing license. The  
52 commission shall establish the fee, but the fee shall not be less  
53 than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). The applicant  
54 must provide a certified copy of the original birth certificate  
55 showing that the applicant was born in Mississippi and/or if the  
56 parents' address was in Mississippi at the time of birth as shown  
57 on the birth certificate or other documents and/or official  
58 documents reflect that one of said parents was on active military  
59 service outside the State of Mississippi at the time of said  
60 birth. Further, if the birth certificate of each parent reflects  
61 that each parent was born in the State of Mississippi, then any

62 child born outside the State of Mississippi of those parents may  
63 be issued a nonresident lifetime sportsman license for the above  
64 set out fee.

65 (5) Any materially false statement contained in an  
66 application for a lifetime license renders void the license issued  
67 pursuant to that application, and subjects the applicant to  
68 criminal prosecution under Section 49-7-45.

69 (6) Nothing in this section exempts an applicant for a  
70 lifetime license from meeting other qualifications or requirements  
71 otherwise established by law for the privilege of hunting or  
72 fishing.

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