

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2764

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-20.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION TO HUNTER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR  
3 CHILDREN BETWEEN AGES OF 12 AND 16; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-20.1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:

7 49-7-20.1. (1) (a) To reduce hunting accidents of children  
8 under license age, to protect the safety of these children and to  
9 promote hunter safety, a child at least twelve (12) years of age  
10 and under sixteen (16) years of age must have a certificate of  
11 satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by  
12 the department before hunting in this state.

13 (b) A child at least twelve (12) years of age and under  
14 sixteen (16) years of age may hunt without having the certificate  
15 of hunter education required under this subsection if the child is  
16 in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or  
17 exempt hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting.

18 (2) A child under the age of twelve (12) must be in the  
19 presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt  
20 hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when the child is  
21 hunting.

22 (3) There is no penalty for a violation of this section, but  
23 to protect the safety of the child a conservation officer may  
24 require the child to end the hunt and may unload the firearm and  
25 may take the firearm and the child to an adult.

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