

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2795

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO ISSUE
3 A RESIDENT APPRENTICE HUNTING LICENSE FOR RESIDENTS WITHOUT HUNTER
4 EDUCATION CERTIFICATE; TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-20, MISSISSIPPI CODE
5 OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

9 49-7-5. (1) (a) Any resident, as defined in Section
10 49-7-3, upon application, shall receive a combination resident
11 hunting and fishing license for the sum of Seventeen Dollars
12 (\$17.00). Such license shall qualify the licensee to hunt under
13 this chapter all game and fowl, including deer and turkey, and to
14 fish in any county of the state.

15 (b) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
16 application, shall receive a resident combination small game
17 hunting and fishing license for the sum of Thirteen Dollars
18 (\$13.00) together with the fee provided in Section 49-7-17 to the
19 office or agent issuing such license. Such hunting license shall
20 qualify the licensee to hunt and fish under this chapter all game
21 and fowl, except deer and turkey, in any county in the state.

22 (c) Any resident of the State of Mississippi, as
23 defined in Section 49-7-3, upon application, shall receive a
24 resident small game license, and for it shall pay the issuing
25 officer or agent the sum of Thirteen Dollars (\$13.00), together
26 with the fee provided in Section 49-7-17 to the officer or agent
27 issuing such license. Such hunting license shall qualify the
28 person holding the same to hunt under the provisions of this

29 chapter, and in season, all game and fowl, except deer and turkey,
30 in any county in the state.

31 (d) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
32 application, shall receive a sportsman's license for the sum of
33 Thirty-two Dollars (\$32.00). Such license shall qualify the
34 licensee to hunt under this chapter all game and fowl, including
35 deer and turkey, and to fish as provided by law, in any county in
36 the state, and to hunt using primitive weapons and bow and arrow
37 in the manner provided by law. The commission may notify the
38 licensee of the expiration of his license, and the licensee may
39 renew the license by mailing the sum of Thirty-two Dollars
40 (\$32.00) to the commission. A licensee who has not renewed the
41 license within thirty (30) days after the expiration date shall be
42 removed from the commission's records, and the licensee must apply
43 to be placed on the renewal list.

44 (e) In addition to a hunting license allowing the
45 taking of turkey, a resident who hunts turkey during a fall turkey
46 season must purchase a fall turkey hunting permit for a fee of
47 Five Dollars (\$5.00) plus the fee provided in Section 49-7-17. A
48 resident sportsman's licensee or resident lifetime sportsman
49 licensee may hunt during the fall turkey season without purchasing
50 a permit.

51 (f) The commission may offer a resident apprentice
52 hunting license for a resident who does not have the required
53 certificate of hunter education and may set the fee for the
54 apprentice hunting license. An apprentice license may be
55 purchased only one (1) time by a resident and the apprentice
56 hunting licensee must be accompanied by a licensed or exempt
57 hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when hunting.

58 (2) (a) Any resident citizen of the State of Mississippi
59 who has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years or who has
60 reached the age of sixty-five (65) years, or any resident citizen
61 who is blind, paraplegic, or a multiple amputee, or who has been

62 adjudged by the Veterans Administration as having a total
63 service-connected disability, or has been adjudged to be totally
64 disabled by the Social Security Administration shall not be
65 required to purchase or have in his possession, a hunting or
66 fishing license while engaged in such activities. A person exempt
67 by reason of total service-connected disability, as adjudged by
68 the Veterans Administration or who has been adjudged to be totally
69 disabled by the Social Security Administration or who is blind,
70 paraplegic or a multiple amputee, shall have in their possession
71 and on their person proof of their age, residency, disability
72 status or other respective physical impairment while engaged in
73 the activities of hunting or fishing.

74 (b) All exempt hunting and fishing licenses previously
75 issued for disabilities shall be null and void effective July 1,
76 1993.

77 (c) The commission may offer a youth all-game hunting
78 and fishing license for exempt youths who have a hunter education
79 certificate and an all-game hunting and fishing license for other
80 persons exempted under paragraph (a). Youths and other exempt
81 persons shall not be required to purchase this license or have it
82 in possession while hunting or fishing. The commission may
83 establish a fee not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00) for such
84 licenses.

85 (3) No license shall be required of residents to hunt, fish
86 or trap on lands in which the record title is vested in such
87 person.

88 (4) Any person or persons exempt under this section from
89 procuring a license shall be subject to and must comply with all
90 other terms and provisions of this chapter.

91 (5) Any person authorized to issue any license under this
92 section may collect and retain for the issuance of each license
93 the additional fee authorized under Section 49-7-17.

94 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
95 amended as follows:

96 49-7-20. (1) It is unlawful for any person born on or after
97 January 1, 1972, to procure any Mississippi hunting license,
98 except a resident apprentice hunting license, unless the person
99 has been issued certification of satisfactory completion of a
100 hunter education course approved by the department.

101 (2) It is unlawful for any person to issue any Mississippi
102 hunting license, except a resident apprentice hunting license, to
103 any person born on or after January 1, 1972, unless the purchaser
104 has provided valid certification of satisfactory completion of a
105 hunter education course approved by the department.

106 (3) It is unlawful for any person to fraudulently obtain a
107 hunter education certification.

108 (4) The department may revoke any hunting license or hunter
109 education certification upon determination that the holder was not
110 entitled to issuance or obtained the license or certification by
111 any fraudulent means.

112 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
113 and after July 1, 2006.