

By: Senator(s) Michel, Flowers, Dearing,
Chaney, Davis, White, Mettetal, Gollott,
Doxey, Jackson (15th), King, Williamson,
Pickering, Brown, Hyde-Smith, Morgan, Hewes,
Kirby, Carmichael, Ross, Clarke, Cuevas,
Nunnelee, Lee (35th), Little, Albritton

To: Constitution

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 540

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING TO AMEND THE MISSISSIPPI
2 CONSTITUTION OF 1890 BY ADDING A NEW SECTION ESTABLISHING THE
3 RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH AS A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT; AND FOR RELATED
4 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 ___. Hunting, trapping and fishing and the taking of
12 wild game species are a valued part of our heritage and will be
13 forever preserved for the people. Fish and wildlife shall be
14 managed by laws and regulations that provide persons with the
15 continued opportunity to take, by traditional means and methods,
16 species traditionally pursued by hunters, anglers and trappers.
17 Fish and wildlife management, including taking, shall be
18 consistent with the state's duty to protect this heritage and its
19 duty to conserve wild animals, birds and fish. Hunting, fishing
20 or trapping by sportsmen shall always be a preferred and available
21 means of controlling all invasive or overpopulated species. Any
22 person who is licensed or exempt from licensure by state law or
23 regulation to hunt, fish or trap and who is adversely affected by
24 a failure to comply with this section shall have a private cause
25 of action to enforce this section. The right of the people to
26 hunt, fish, trap and harvest game shall be subject only to such
27 regulations and restrictions as the Legislature may prescribe by
28 general law. It is the public policy of the state to promote the

29 public and private acquisition, approval, construction and
30 operation of shooting ranges and other facilities where persons
31 may acquire and enhance their training and skills to hunt and
32 harvest game safely, efficiently and humanely.

33 This amendment shall be known as the "Sportsperson's Bill of
34 Rights."

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

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed
40 constitutional amendment for the ballot shall read as follows:
41 "This amendment makes hunting and fishing constitutional rights in
42 Mississippi, subject to applicable laws and regulations."