

By: Representatives Stringer, Nicholson,  
Bounds, Staples, Robinson (84th)

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 423  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND  
2 PARKS TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROJECT ALLOWING THE HUNTING OF DEER  
3 OVER GRAIN OR SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD IN AMITE, CHOCTAW, CLARKE, COPIAH,  
4 FORREST, GEORGE, GREENE, HANCOCK, HARRISON, JACKSON, JASPER,  
5 JEFFERSON DAVIS, JONES, KEMPER, LAMAR, LAUDERDALE, LAWRENCE,  
6 LINCOLN, MARION, NESHOPA, NEWTON, PEARL RIVER, PERRY, PIKE, SCOTT,  
7 SMITH, STONE, WALTHALL, WAYNE, WEBSTER AND WILKINSON COUNTIES; TO  
8 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO FILE A  
9 REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF  
10 THE HOUSE WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS COMMITTEE AND THE CHAIRMAN  
11 OF THE SENATE WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS COMMITTEE AND TO  
12 INCLUDE IN ITS REPORT ITS RECOMMENDATION AS TO THE FEASIBILITY OF  
13 ESTABLISHING THE PILOT PROJECT ON A STATEWIDE BASIS; TO AMEND  
14 SECTION 49-7-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972; TO PRESCRIBE A PENALTY  
15 FOR HUNTING DEER OVER GRAIN EXCEPT AS AUTHORIZED BY THIS ACT; AND  
16 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

18 **SECTION 1.** The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks  
19 shall establish a pilot project allowing the hunting of deer over  
20 grain or supplemental food. The project shall be limited to  
21 Amite, Calhoun, Choctaw, Clarke, Copiah, Forrest, George, Greene,  
22 Hancock, Harrison, Itawamba, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson Davis,  
23 Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion,  
24 Monroe, Neshoba, Newton, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Pontotoc,  
25 Scott, Smith, Stone, Tippah, Walthall, Wayne, Webster, Wilkinson,  
26 and Winston Counties shall be managed and conducted strictly in  
27 accordance with such rules and regulations as the commission may  
28 establish. The commission may require a person desiring to  
29 participate in the pilot project to obtain a permit for such  
30 privilege but may not charge or collect a fee for such permit.  
31 The commission shall have the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries  
32 and Parks study and analyze all relevant data and issues with  
33 regard to the project, including, but not limited to, the impact  
34 that the project has upon the health and density of deer

35 populations and other wildlife, its effect on surrounding habitat,  
36 the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement, the extent to which  
37 hunters who participate in the project are successful in  
38 harvesting deer and are supportive of the project, the perception  
39 of the project by the general public, and the extent to which the  
40 project has a favorable impact on economic development and  
41 tourism.

42 On or before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session of the  
43 Legislature, the department shall file a report of its findings  
44 and recommendations concerning the pilot project with the Chairman  
45 of the House Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committee and the  
46 Chairman of the Senate Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committee.  
47 The department shall include in its report its recommendation as  
48 to the feasibility of establishing the pilot project on a  
49 statewide basis.

50 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
51 amended as follows:

52 49-7-33. (1) It is unlawful to hunt, trap or kill any wild  
53 bird or wild animal of any kind with the aid of bait, recordings  
54 of bird or animal calls, or electrically amplified imitations of  
55 calls of any kind, except a person:

56 (a) May use electrically amplified sound devices for  
57 hunting coyote and crow;

58 (b) May use liquid scents for any animal or bird; and

59 (c) May use lures for trapping furbearing animals,  
60 beaver, coyote, fox and nutria according to regulations adopted by  
61 the commission.

62 (2) The commission, in its discretion, may relax the  
63 restrictions regarding the use of lures or sound devices if a  
64 condition arises or exists, as decided by the State Board of  
65 Health or county board of health, that may endanger persons or  
66 livestock in a certain community, county or area.

67           (3) A person may use bait to trap wild hogs as defined in  
68 Section 49-7-140 during the period between the end of Spring  
69 turkey season and the beginning of deer season with bow and arrow.

70           (4) Any person who violates this section and does not have  
71 the permit provided in Section 1 of this act commits a misdemeanor  
72 punishable as a Class III violation as provided under Section  
73 49-7-101.

74           **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
75 and after July 1, 2007, and shall stand repealed on July 1, 2011.