

By: Representative Warren

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 560

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 49-7-58.3 AND 49-11-3, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, WHICH AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE,
3 FISHERIES AND PARKS TO REGULATE THE HUNTING OF NONNATIVE CERVIDS;
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-58.3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-7-58.3. (1) The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and
9 Parks may regulate the hunting of nonnative cervids in
10 noncommercial wildlife enclosures, and the Department of Wildlife,
11 Fisheries and Parks may enforce such regulations and laws in the
12 same manner as commercial wildlife enclosures as provided in
13 Section 49-11-25.

14 (2) This section shall repeal on July 1, 2009.

15 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
16 amended as follows:

17 49-11-3. (1) The department may issue operating licenses to
18 any person, partnership, association or corporation for the
19 operation of shooting preserves or commercial wildlife enclosures
20 that meet the following requirements and any applicable
21 regulations:

22 (a) Each shooting preserve shall contain a minimum of
23 one hundred (100) acres in one (1) tract of leased or owned land
24 (including water area, if any) and shall be restricted to not more
25 than six hundred forty (640) contiguous acres (including water
26 area, if any), except that preserves confined to the releasing of
27 ducks only may be authorized to operate with a minimum of fifty
28 (50) contiguous acres (including water area).

29 (b) The boundaries of each shooting preserve shall be
30 clearly defined and posted with signs erected at intervals of
31 three hundred (300) feet or less.

32 (c) Each commercial wildlife enclosure shall contain a
33 minimum of three hundred (300) acres in one (1) tract of leased or
34 owned land (including water area, if any). No commercial wildlife
35 enclosure shall be constructed in such a manner as to allow
36 ingress of native wild animals without providing means of egress.

37 (d) The preserve or enclosure must be privately owned
38 and operated.

39 (2) The commission may issue any rules or regulations
40 necessary to regulate shooting preserves and commercial wildlife
41 enclosures and to enforce this chapter.

42 (3) (a) The commission may regulate the hunting of
43 nonnative cervids within a commercial wildlife enclosure, and the
44 department may enter such enclosure as provided under Section
45 49-11-25 and enforce such regulations.

46 (b) This subsection (3) shall repeal on July 1, 2009.

47 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 2007.