

By: Representative Bailey

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1041

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT HUNTING, TRAPPING OR FISHING LICENSES SHALL BE VALID  
3 FOR A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE; TO  
4 AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO  
5 DEVELOP AND ISSUE A MULTI-YEAR LICENSE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 49-7-21. (1) (a) The licenses for hunting, trapping or  
10 fishing shall be issued on a form prepared by the executive  
11 director and supplied to the bonded agents authorized to issue  
12 licenses. The forms shall bear the name and social security  
13 number or driver's license number of the applicant. All annual  
14 licenses shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months from  
15 the date of issuance. The licenses shall be issued in the name of  
16 the commission and be countersigned by the bonded agent issuing  
17 same. However, the commission may issue a license that will be  
18 valid for a period of time in excess of one (1) twelve-month  
19 period. \* \* \*

20 (b) A person may purchase a license from the office of  
21 the department without appearing in person.

22 (c) The commission may design, establish, and  
23 administer a program to provide for the purchase, by electronic  
24 means, of any license, permit, registration or reservation issued  
25 by the commission or department.

26 (2) Any person authorized to issue licenses for hunting,  
27 trapping or fishing in this state who attempts to issue a license  
28 on a form other than one as prescribed by this section, or

29 attempts to prepare a license certificate in any manner other than  
30 on the form prescribed by this section, and furnished by the  
31 executive director, is guilty of a Class II violation, and shall  
32 be punished as provided in Section 49-7-143, Mississippi Code of  
33 1972, and the person convicted shall be forever barred from  
34 issuing licenses in the State of Mississippi.

35 (3) Any resident or nonresident who hunts, takes or traps  
36 any wild animal, bird or fish must possess a valid license issued  
37 by the commission, unless specifically exempted under this  
38 chapter.

39 (4) Any nonresident, who hunts or traps without the required  
40 license is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof  
41 shall be fined in an amount not less than Five Hundred Dollars  
42 (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the  
43 first offense and shall forfeit hunting and trapping privileges  
44 for a period of one (1) year. The nonresident shall also be  
45 assessed by the court an administrative fee as prescribed under  
46 subsection (6) of this section. For the second or any subsequent  
47 offense a nonresident shall be fined in an amount of not less than  
48 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than One Thousand Five  
49 Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for  
50 not more than thirty (30) days, or both such fine and imprisonment  
51 and shall forfeit hunting and trapping privileges for a period of  
52 two (2) years. The nonresident shall also be assessed by the  
53 court an administrative fee as prescribed under subsection (6) of  
54 this section.

55 (5) Any nonresident who fishes without the required license  
56 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in  
57 an amount not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more  
58 than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for the first offense.  
59 For the second or any subsequent offense a nonresident shall be  
60 fined in an amount not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars  
61 (\$250.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and that

62 nonresident shall also be assessed by the court an administrative  
63 fee as prescribed under subsection (6) of this section.

64 (6) In addition to any other fines or penalties imposed  
65 under subsection (4) or (5) of this section, any person convicted  
66 for a violation of subsection (3) of this section shall be  
67 assessed by the court an administrative fee equal in amount to the  
68 cost of the hunting, trapping or fishing license fee that such  
69 person unlawfully failed to possess at the time of the violation,  
70 the amount of which license fee shall be entered upon the ticket  
71 or citation by the charging officer at the time the ticket or  
72 citation is issued. The clerk of the court in which conviction  
73 for a violation of subsection (3) of this section takes place,  
74 promptly shall collect all administrative fees imposed under this  
75 subsection and deposit them monthly with the State Treasurer, in  
76 the same manner and in accordance with the same procedure, as  
77 nearly as practicable, as required for the collection, receipt and  
78 deposit of state assessments under Section 99-19-73. However, all  
79 administrative fees collected under the provisions of this  
80 subsection shall be credited by the State Treasurer to the account  
81 of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, and may be  
82 expended by the department upon appropriation by the Legislature.

83 (7) Any person who obtains a license under an assumed name  
84 or makes a materially false statement to obtain a license is  
85 guilty of a felony and shall be subject to a fine of Two Thousand  
86 Dollars (\$2,000.00) or may be imprisoned for a term not to exceed  
87 one (1) year, or both.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
89 and after July 1, 2007.