By: Representative Holland

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

## HOUSE BILL NO. 152

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-31.5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 1 2 TO AUTHORIZE THE YEAR-ROUND HUNTING OF WILD HOGS; TO REQUIRE THOSE 3 PERSONS HUNTING WILD HOGS POSSESSES A PERMIT, ALL-GAME HUNTING LICENSE OR TRAPPING LICENSE, UNLESS OTHERWISE EXEMPT; TO REQUIRE 4 5 PERSONS HUNTING OR TRAPPING WILD HOGS TO PURCHASE A MINIMUM OF 6 TWENTY-FIVE TAGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS, TO BE ISSUED ANNUALLY AT THE TIME OF THE PURCHASE OF THE 7 8 REQUIRED PERMIT OR APPROPRIATE LICENSE; TO AUTHORIZE THE 9 DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATION TO REGULATE THE HUNTING OF WILD HOGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 10

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 12 SECTION 1. Section 49-7-31.5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 13 amended as follows:

14 49-7-31.5. (1) The hunting, trapping and taking of nuisance 15 animals shall be regulated by the commission. The commission may 16 adopt regulations to regulate the hunting, trapping and taking of 17 nuisance animals and to control the population of nuisance 18 animals.

(2) (a) Landowners, agricultural leaseholders or their
designated agents may take predatory and nuisance animals
year-round on lands owned or leased by them.

(b) Landowners, agricultural leaseholders or their designated agents may take nuisance animals with any type of weapon and may take nuisance animals during the night after legal hunting hours on lands owned or leased by them with a permit issued by the department.

(c) No license is required for a resident landowner
hunting or trapping nuisance animals on his own land. An
agricultural leaseholder, designated agent and any other person

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30 must possess either an all-game hunting license or trapping 31 license, unless otherwise exempt.

32 (3) The taking of any animal or animals other than nuisance
 33 animals by the use of a trap or traps is unlawful except during
 34 the time the season is open for the taking of fur-bearing animals.

35 (4) Nuisance animals may be run, chased or pursued with
 36 dogs, except as provided in Section 49-7-32, year-round by
 37 licensed hunters.

38 (5) Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of39 electronic calls.

40 (6) Nuisance animals may be hunted or trapped with the aid
41 of bait and lures, on private lands, according to regulations
42 adopted by the commission.

43 (7) Any part of a nuisance animal may be bought and sold44 year-round.

(8) Wild hogs may be taken year-round provided that the 45 individual hunting wild hogs possesses a permit, all-game hunting 46 47 license or trapping license, unless otherwise exempt as a resident landowner under subsection (2)(c) of this section. Each person 48 49 hunting or trapping wild hogs shall purchase a minimum of 50 twenty-five (25) tags from the department, which shall be issued annually at the time of the purchase of the required permit or 51 appropriate license. The department shall be authorized to 52 establish rules and regulation to regulate the hunting of wild 53 54 hogs and the fees established with the issuance of tags. 55 (9) Wild hogs may not be caught or trapped and released (a) into the wild at a location different from the location where the 56 57 wild hog was caught or trapped. (b) A violation of this subsection is a Class I 58 59 violation and is punishable as provided under Section 49-7-141. (10) When hunting wild hogs during any open gun season on 60

61 deer, a hunter must wear in full view at least five hundred (500) 62 square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange.

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63 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 64 and after July 1, 2012.