By: Senator(s) Watson

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks; Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2728

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE A PERSON TO OBTAIN A PERMIT TO HUNT DEER 2 WITH DOGS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED AT NO COST BY 3 THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS; TO REQUIRE THE PERMIT TO BE ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S PERSON WHILE HUNTING WITH DOGS; 4 5 TO REQUIRE THE PERMIT NUMBER TO BE ATTACHED TO THE COLLAR ON DEER 6 DOGS; TO REQUIRE A PERSON TO KEEP HIS DOGS ON THE PERMITTED 7 PROPERTY; TO PROVIDE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; AND FOR RELATED 8 PURPOSES. 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: **SECTION 1.** (1) A person hunting deer with dogs must obtain 10 11 an annual permit to use the dogs to hunt deer on private or public lands. The department shall issue the permit at no cost. The 12 13 permit is renewable and a person may keep the same permit number. 14 (2) If the permit is for use on private lands, the applicant must include with the application the following: 15 16 (a) Information about the private property, including a boundary map; and 17 18 (b) A copy of the hunting lease or written permission from the landowner for hunting on the property. 19 (a) The permit must be on the individual's person while 20 (3) 21 hunting with dogs on the property. The permit number must be on or attached to the 22 (b) 23 collar of each dog used for taking deer. (c) A person using dogs to take deer on private 24 25 property is required to keep the dogs on the permitted private 26 property. 27 The commission may adopt regulations to implement this (4) 28 section.

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(5) (a) For a first offense, a person violating this
section is guilty of a Class III violation and is punishable as
provided in Section 49-7-101.

32 (b) For a second offense committed within five (5) 33 years from the date of conviction of the first offense, a person 34 violating this section is guilty of a Class II violation and is 35 punishable as provided in Section 49-7-143.

36 (c) For a third or subsequent offense committed within 37 five (5) years of the date of conviction of the first offense, a 38 person violating this section is guilty of a Class I violation and 39 is punishable as provided in Section 49-7-141.

40 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 41 and after July 1, 2012.