

## House Amendments to Senate Bill No. 2579

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE HOUSE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

### AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11           **SECTION 1.** Section 49-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
12 amended as follows:

13           49-15-11. (1) The Mississippi Department of Marine  
14 Resources is hereby established and full power is vested in the  
15 department to manage, control, supervise, enforce and direct any  
16 matters pertaining to saltwater aquatic life and marine resources  
17 under the jurisdiction of the commission.

18           (2) The Executive Director of the Department of Marine  
19 Resources shall have the authority to internally reorganize the  
20 Department of Marine Resources. \* \* \*

21           (3) The department shall be composed of the following  
22 offices:

23                   (a) Office of Coastal Resources;

24                   (b) Office of Finance and Administration;

25                   (c) Office of Marine Fisheries;

26                   (d) Office of Marine Patrol; and

27                   (e) Office of Restoration and Resiliency.

28       Each office shall be composed of the administrative units as  
29 set forth in the reorganization plan developed by the executive  
30 director.

31       (4) The following agency personnel shall be appointed by the  
32 executive director:

33           (a) Chief Financial Officer who shall have a minimum of  
34 a Master's Degree in Business Administration, Accounting or  
35 related field and a minimum of five (5) years' experience in  
36 business management or accounting practice.

37           (b) Chief of Marine Patrol who shall be a certified law  
38 enforcement officer with a minimum of ten (10) years of law  
39 enforcement experience.

40           (c) Chief Scientific Officer who shall have a minimum  
41 of a Master's degree in Coastal Sciences or related field with a  
42 minimum of five (5) years of experience in coastal resource  
43 management or equivalent experience.

44       (5) The executive director shall have an annual audit of the  
45 department performed by an independent certified public accountant  
46 and shall file the audit report with the commission, the  
47 Legislative Oversight Committee, the State Auditor and the  
48 Legislative Budget Office.

49       ( \* \* \*6) Whenever the terms "Mississippi Marine  
50 Conservation Commission," "Marine Conservation Commission,"  
51 "Bureau of Marine Resources" and "Mississippi Marine Resources  
52 Council" appear in any state law, they shall mean the "Mississippi  
53 Commission on Marine Resources."

54           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
55 and after its passage.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and  
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

1           AN ACT TO CREATE THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
2 ACCOUNTABILITY AND REORGANIZATION ACT; TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-11,  
3 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE  
4 DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES; TO CREATE CERTAIN OFFICES WITHIN  
5 THE DEPARTMENT; TO PROVIDE QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTAIN AGENCY  
6 PERSONNEL; TO EXEMPT PERSONNEL ACTIONS FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE STATE  
7 PERSONNEL BOARD TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE AND TIMELY  
8 REORGANIZATION; TO REQUIRE AN ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
9 MARINE RESOURCES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

HR40\SB2579PH.J

Andrew Ketchings  
Clerk of the House of Representatives