

By: Representative Bounds

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 719

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-147, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF UNMANNED SYSTEMS TO CONDUCT VIDEO
3 SURVEILLANCE OF OR TO INTERFERE WITH A PERSON ENGAGED IN LAWFUL
4 HUNTING OR FISHING ACTIVITIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-147, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-7-147. (1) No person shall intentionally:

9 (a) Interfere with or attempt to prevent the lawful
10 taking of wildlife by another;

11 (b) Attempt to disturb wildlife, or attempt to affect
12 their behavior with the intent to prevent their lawful taking by
13 another; * * *

14 (c) Harass another person who is engaged in the lawful
15 taking of wildlife or in the preparation for such taking * * *; or

16 (d) Use an unmanned system to conduct video
17 surveillance of a person lawfully engaged in any hunting, trapping
18 or fishing activities, or in violation of paragraphs (a) through
19 (c) of this subsection. For purposes of this section, "unmanned



20 system," means any mechanical aircraft, overland vehicle or
21 watercraft that is pilotless and is either remotely and fully
22 controlled from another location or programmed and fully
23 autonomous.

24 (2) Any person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a
25 Class II violation, punishable as provided in Section 49-7-143,
26 Mississippi Code of 1972.

27 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
28 and after July 1, 2015.

