

By: Representative Bounds

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 1151

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 49-7-5 AND 49-7-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE
2 OF 1972, TO REVISE THE FEES REQUIRED FOR HUNTING AND FISHING
3 LICENSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 49-7-5. (1) (a) Any resident, as defined in Section
8 49-7-3, upon application, shall receive a combination resident
9 hunting and fishing license for the sum of * * * Thirty-four
10 Dollars (\$34.00). The license shall qualify the licensee to hunt
11 under this chapter all game and fowl, including deer and turkey,
12 and to fish in any county of the state.

13 (b) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
14 application, shall receive a resident combination small game
15 hunting and fishing license for the sum of * * * Ten Dollars
16 (\$10.00) together with the fee provided in Section 49-7-17 to the
17 office or agent issuing the license. The hunting license shall



18 qualify the licensee to hunt and fish under this chapter all game
19 and fowl, except deer and turkey, in any county in the state.

20 (c) Any resident, as defined in Section 49-7-3, upon
21 application, shall receive a sportsman's license for the sum
22 of * * * Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). The license shall qualify the
23 licensee to hunt under this chapter all game and fowl, including
24 deer and turkey, and to fish as provided by law, in any county in
25 the state, and to hunt using primitive weapons and bow and arrow
26 in the manner provided by law. The commission may notify the
27 licensee of the expiration of his license, and the licensee may
28 renew the license by mailing the sum of * * * Fifty Dollars
29 (\$50.00) to the commission. A licensee who has not renewed the
30 license within thirty (30) days after the expiration date shall be
31 removed from the commission's records, and the licensee must apply
32 to be placed on the renewal list.

33 (d) In addition to a hunting license allowing the
34 taking of turkey, a resident who hunts turkey during a fall turkey
35 season must purchase a fall turkey hunting permit for a fee of
36 Five Dollars (\$5.00) plus the fee provided in Section 49-7-17. A
37 resident sportsman's licensee or resident lifetime sportsman
38 licensee may hunt during the fall turkey season without purchasing
39 a permit.

40 (e) The commission may offer a resident apprentice
41 hunting license for a resident who does not have the required
42 certificate of hunter education and may set the fee for the



43 apprentice hunting license. An apprentice license may be
44 purchased only one (1) time by a resident and the apprentice
45 hunting licensee must be accompanied by a licensed or exempt
46 resident hunter at least twenty-one (21) years of age when
47 hunting.

48 (2) (a) Any resident citizen of the State of Mississippi
49 who has not reached the age of sixteen (16) years or who has
50 reached the age of sixty-five (65) years, or any resident citizen
51 who is blind, paraplegic, or a multiple amputee, or who has been
52 adjudged by the Veterans Administration as having a total
53 service-connected disability, or has been adjudged to be totally
54 disabled by the Social Security Administration shall not be
55 required to purchase or have in his possession, a hunting or
56 fishing license while engaged in such activities. A person exempt
57 by reason of total service-connected disability, as adjudged by
58 the Veterans Administration or who has been adjudged to be totally
59 disabled by the Social Security Administration or who is blind,
60 paraplegic or a multiple amputee, shall have in their possession
61 and on their person proof of their age, residency, disability
62 status or other respective physical impairment while engaged in
63 the activities of hunting or fishing.

64 (b) Any resident who is a member of the Armed Forces,
65 including the Reserves and National Guard, and on active duty
66 outside the State of Mississippi is not required to purchase or
67 have in his possession a hunting or fishing license while engaged



68 in such activities on leave from active duty. The resident shall
69 have in his possession and on his person any proof as may be
70 required by the commission.

71 (c) All exempt hunting and fishing licenses previously
72 issued for disabilities shall be null and void effective July 1,
73 1993.

74 (d) The commission may offer a youth all-game hunting
75 and fishing license for exempt youths who have a hunter education
76 certificate and an all-game hunting and fishing license for other
77 persons exempted under paragraph (a). Youths and other exempt
78 persons shall not be required to purchase this license or have it
79 in possession while hunting or fishing. The commission may
80 establish a fee not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00) for the
81 licenses.

82 (3) No license shall be required of residents to hunt, fish
83 or trap on lands in which the record title is vested in such
84 person.

85 (4) Any person or persons exempt under this section from
86 procuring a license shall be subject to and must comply with all
87 other terms and provisions of this chapter.

88 (5) Any person authorized to issue any license under this
89 section may collect and retain for the issuance of each license
90 the additional fee authorized under Section 49-7-17.

91 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
92 amended as follows:



93 49-7-9. (1) (a) Each resident of the State of Mississippi,
94 as defined in Section 49-7-3, fishing in the public fresh waters
95 of the state, including lakes and reservoirs, but not including
96 privately owned ponds and streams, shall purchase a combination
97 small game hunting and fishing license as provided in Section
98 49-7-5 for * * * Ten Dollars (\$10.00). Any resident purchasing a
99 license as prescribed in this subsection shall be entitled to
100 fish, in accordance with the regulations and ordinances of the
101 commission, in all public fresh waters within the territory of the
102 State of Mississippi.

103 (b) A resident may purchase a resident fishing license
104 valid for a period of three (3) days for the sum of Three Dollars
105 (\$3.00).

106 (c) No license shall be required of any resident
107 citizen of the State of Mississippi who has not reached the age of
108 sixteen (16) years or who has reached the age of sixty-five (65)
109 years or who is blind, paraplegic, a multiple amputee or has been
110 adjudged by the Veterans Administration as having a total
111 service-connected disability, or has been adjudged totally
112 disabled by the Social Security Administration. Such person shall
113 not be required to purchase or have in his possession a hunting or
114 fishing license while engaged in such activities.

115 (d) A person exempt by reason of age, total
116 service-connected disability as adjudged by the Veterans
117 Administration or total disability as adjudged by the Social



118 Security Administration or who is blind, paraplegic or a multiple
119 amputee, shall have in their possession and on their person proof
120 of their age, residency, disability status or other respective
121 physical impairment while engaged in the activities of hunting or
122 fishing.

123 (e) Any resident who is a member of the Armed Forces,
124 including the Reserves and National Guard, and on active duty
125 outside the State of Mississippi is not required to purchase or
126 have in his possession a hunting or fishing license while engaged
127 in such activities on leave from active duty. Such resident shall
128 have in his possession and on his person such proof as may be
129 required by the commission.

130 (2) (a) All persons fishing in privately owned lakes or
131 ponds shall have specific permission to do so from the owner of
132 such lake or pond.

133 (b) Residents do not need a fishing license to fish in
134 those waters, except when the owner of the lake or pond charges a
135 fee for fishing, then a resident must have a fishing license to
136 fish in those waters unless exempted under subsection (1) of this
137 section.

138 (3) The first weekend of "National Fishing and Boating Week"
139 in June of each year is designated as "Free Fishing Weekend."
140 July 4 is designated as "Free Fishing Day." Any person may sport
141 fish without a license on "Free Fishing Weekend," and on "Free
142 Fishing Day."



143 (4) Any person authorized to issue any license under this
144 section may collect and retain for issuing each license the
145 additional fee authorized under Section 49-7-17.

146 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
147 and after July 1, 2016.

