

By: Representatives Hood, Crawford

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1300
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 17-25-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR SPORT-SHOOTING RANGES; AND FOR RELATED
3 PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 17-25-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 17-25-15. (1) An established sport_shooting range that is
8 not in violation of a state law or an ordinance of a unit of local
9 government prior to the enactment of a new ordinance of a unit of
10 local government affecting the range may continue in operation
11 even if, at or after the time of the enactment of the new
12 ordinance, the operation of the sport_shooting range is not in
13 compliance with the new ordinance.

14 In order to qualify for the provisions of this subsection, an
15 established outdoor shooting range must be:

16 (a) Constructed in a manner not reasonably expected to
17 allow a projectile to cross the boundary of the tract; or



18 (b) Located on a tract of land of ten (10) acres or
19 more and with any firing line more than one hundred fifty (150)
20 feet from a residence or occupied building located on another
21 property if a shotgun, air rifle or air pistol, BB gun or bow and
22 arrow is discharged; or

23 (c) Located on a tract of land of fifty (50) acres or
24 more and with any firing line more than three hundred (300) feet
25 from a residence or occupied building located on another property
26 if a center fire or rimfire rifle or pistol or a muzzle-loading
27 rifle or pistol of any caliber is discharged.

28 (2) No new ordinance of a local unit of government shall
29 prohibit an established sport_shooting range that is in existence
30 on * * * July 1, 2016, from doing any of the following within the
31 existing geographic boundaries of the sport_shooting range:

32 (a) Repair, remodel or reinforce any building or
33 improvement as may be necessary in the interest of public safety
34 or to secure the continued use of the building or improvement;

35 (b) Reconstruct, repair, rebuild or resume the use of a
36 facility or building damaged or destroyed, in whole or in part, by
37 fire, collapse, explosion, act of nature or act of war occurring
38 after March 31, 2008;

39 (c) Expand or enhance its membership or opportunities
40 for public participation;

41 (d) * * * Expand or increase facilities or activities.



42 (3) The right to operate as a sport-shooting range shall not
43 be amended, restricted, or terminated due to a change of
44 circumstances regarding the use of adjacent or surrounding
45 properties to the extent that any sport-shooting range has been
46 issued permission to operate as a sport-shooting range, whether as
47 of right or by special exception, variance, or otherwise, by any
48 entity having zoning or zoning appeal authority.

49 (* * *4) A person who subsequently acquires title to or
50 leases or otherwise uses or exercises control over real property
51 adversely affected by the normal operation or use of property with
52 an established sport-shooting range shall not maintain a nuisance
53 action against the range or the person who owns, leases or
54 otherwise uses or exercises control over the range to restrain,
55 enjoin or impede the use of the range * * *.

56 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
57 and after July 1, 2016.

