

By: Representative Morgan

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 1028

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-26, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND
3 PARKS TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR TAGGING WHITE-TAILED DEER AND WILD
4 TURKEY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-26, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-7-26. (1) (a) The department * * * shall develop,
9 implement and regulate a tagging and reporting program for
10 white-tailed deer and wild turkey, to collect harvest data and
11 monitor bag limit compliance by any means as provided in this
12 section.

13 * * *

14 (* * *b) The department shall provide an annual report
15 to the Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committees of the Senate and
16 the House of Representatives.

17 * * *

18 (* * *2) A person who violates any law or regulation of
19 the * * * tagging program is guilty of a Class * * * II violation



20 and shall be subject to the fines provided in * * * Section
21 49-7-143. In addition, a person shall be assessed the
22 administrative fee prescribed in this section.

23 (* * *3) (a) A person convicted of a first violation of
24 the tagging program shall be assessed an administrative fee of not
25 less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five Hundred
26 Dollars (\$500.00), which shall be imposed and collected upon
27 conviction. A person convicted of a second or subsequent
28 violation shall be assessed an administrative fee of not less than
29 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars
30 (\$1,000.00), which shall be imposed and collected upon conviction.

31 (b) The clerk of the court shall collect and deposit
32 the administrative fees with the State Treasurer, in the same
33 manner and in accordance with the same procedure, as nearly as
34 practicable, as required for the collection and deposit of state
35 assessments under Section 99-19-73.

36 (c) The administrative fees shall be credited to the
37 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks and may be expended by
38 the department upon appropriation by the Legislature.

39 (* * *4) Each deer or turkey taken or possessed in
40 violation of the tagging program is a separate offense.

41 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
42 and after July 1, 2018.

