

By: Representatives Bounds, Morgan, Kinkade

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 1390

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-26, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO
3 CREATE AN ELECTRONIC HARVEST REPORTING PROGRAM FOR WHITE-TAILED
4 DEER AND WILD TURKEY FROM AND AFTER MARCH 1, 2019; TO PROVIDE THAT
5 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT EXPEND FUNDS ON A TAGGING PROGRAM FROM
6 AND AFTER MARCH 1, 2019; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

10 49-7-26. (1) (a) The Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
11 Fisheries and Parks * * * shall develop, implement and regulate
12 a * * * mandatory harvest reporting program for white-tailed deer
13 or wild turkey or both. The purpose of this program is to collect
14 and compile harvest data * * * of such quality and quantity as to
15 be able to assist the Legislature and the commission in
16 formulating the wildlife resource conservation policy for the
17 State of Mississippi.

18 (b) * * * The harvest reporting program shall be simple
19 to use by sportsmen so as to promote compliance and accurate
20 reporting. The program may include, but is not limited to, such



21 means as a mobile smartphone application, online web-based
22 reporting, or such other electronic or digital method(s) as will
23 promote ease of use.

24 (c) The department shall provide an annual report for
25 the harvest reporting program to the Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
26 Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

27 * * *

28 (* * *2) Each deer or turkey taken or possessed in
29 violation of the * * * harvest reporting program is a separate
30 offense.

31 **SECTION 2.** Funds appropriated to the Mississippi Department
32 of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall not be expended on a
33 tagging program.

34 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
35 and after March 1, 2019.

