

**Adopted  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1708**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

5           **SECTION 1.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
6 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in the State General  
7 Fund not otherwise appropriated, for the support and maintenance  
8 of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for the fiscal  
9 year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.....  
10 .....\$           5,601,432.00.

11           **SECTION 2.** The following sum, or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary, is appropriated out of any money in any special fund in  
13 the State Treasury to the credit of the Department of Wildlife,  
14 Fisheries and Parks which is comprised of special source funds



15 collected by or otherwise available to the department for the  
16 support and maintenance of the department, including the Museum of  
17 Natural Science and the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, for the  
18 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.....  
19 .....\$ 63,410,106.00.

20 The following sum, which is included in the sum appropriated  
21 above in this section, is appropriated out of the state excise  
22 taxes upon gasoline, oil and other petroleum products to the  
23 Fisheries and Wildlife Fund for the fiscal year beginning  
24 July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.....\$ 5,750,000.00.

25 The Department of Revenue is directed to set aside the amount  
26 of this appropriation or any part thereof at any time it sees fit,  
27 out of any collections of taxes upon gasoline, oil and other  
28 petroleum products, and to deduct the amounts so set aside from  
29 such funds before making distribution thereof. However,  
30 provisions shall first be made for the Highway Bonds Sinking Fund,  
31 as required under the provisions of Chapter 130, Laws of 1938, and  
32 any amendments thereto, and Section 27-5-101, Mississippi Code of  
33 1972.

34 Any funds available in the Wildlife Heritage Fund may be  
35 expended by the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks as  
36 authorized by law. The department shall make a detailed report to  
37 the Legislature regarding the spending of the Wildlife Heritage  
38 funds by September 1 for the preceding fiscal year.



39           **SECTION 3.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
40 Section 2 to the Bureau of Wildlife and Fisheries, funds in the  
41 amount of One Hundred Twenty-five Thousand Three Hundred  
42 Thirty-five Dollars (\$125,335.00) shall be derived from the  
43 Education Enhancement Fund deposited pursuant to Sections 27-65-75  
44 and 27-67-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, for the purpose of  
45 defraying the expenses of Project WILD for Fiscal Year 2021.

46           **SECTION 4.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions of  
47 this act, the following positions are authorized:

48       AUTHORIZED POSITIONS:

49	Permanent:	Full Time.....	486
50		Part Time.....	0
51	Time-Limited:	Full Time.....	50
52		Part Time.....	0

53       With the funds herein appropriated, it shall be the agency's  
54 responsibility to make certain that funds required to be  
55 appropriated for "Personal Services" for Fiscal Year 2022 do not  
56 exceed Fiscal Year 2021 funds appropriated for that purpose,  
57 unless programs or positions are added to the agency's Fiscal Year  
58 2021 budget by the Mississippi Legislature. Based on data  
59 provided by the Legislative Budget Office, the State Personnel  
60 Board shall determine and publish the projected annual cost to  
61 fully fund all appropriated positions in compliance with the  
62 provisions of this act. It shall be the responsibility of the  
63 agency head to ensure that no single personnel action increases



64 this projected annual cost and/or the Fiscal Year 2021  
65 appropriations for "Personal Services" when annualized, with the  
66 exception of escalated funds and the award of benchmarks. If, at  
67 the time the agency takes any action to change "Personal  
68 Services," the State Personnel Board determines that the agency  
69 has taken an action which would cause the agency to exceed this  
70 projected annual cost or the Fiscal Year 2021 "Personal Services"  
71 appropriated level, when annualized, then only those actions which  
72 reduce the projected annual cost and/or the appropriation  
73 requirement will be processed by the State Personnel Board until  
74 such time as the requirements of this provision are met.

75 Any transfers or escalations shall be made in accordance with  
76 the terms, conditions and procedures established by law or  
77 allowable under the terms set forth within this act. The State  
78 Personnel Board shall not escalate positions without written  
79 approval from the Department of Finance and Administration. The  
80 Department of Finance and Administration shall not provide written  
81 approval to escalate any funds for salaries and/or positions  
82 without proof of availability of new or additional funds above the  
83 appropriated level.

84 No general funds authorized to be expended herein shall be  
85 used to replace federal funds and/or other special funds which are  
86 being used for salaries authorized under the provisions of this  
87 act and which are withdrawn and no longer available.



88 None of the funds herein appropriated shall be used in  
89 violation of Internal Revenue Service's Publication 15-A relating  
90 to the reporting of income paid to contract employees, as  
91 interpreted by the Office of the State Auditor.

92 **SECTION 5.** Each conservation officer and supervisor shall be  
93 furnished an allowance for uniforms not to exceed Five Hundred  
94 Fifty Dollars (\$550.00) per annum.

95 Provided further, when any personnel of the Bureau of  
96 Wildlife and Fisheries are transferred from one (1) county to  
97 another on a permanent assignment, the expense monies now paid on  
98 out-of-county duty shall not be applicable.

99 **SECTION 6.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
100 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall maintain  
101 complete accounting and personnel records related to the  
102 expenditure of all funds appropriated under this act and that such  
103 records shall be in the same format and level of detail as  
104 maintained for Fiscal Year 2020. It is further the intention of  
105 the Legislature that the agency's budget request for Fiscal Year  
106 2022 shall be submitted to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
107 in a format and level of detail comparable to the format and level  
108 of detail provided during the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request  
109 process.

110 **SECTION 7.** In compliance with the "Mississippi Performance  
111 Budget and Strategic Planning Act of 1994," it is the intent of  
112 the Legislature that the funds provided herein shall be utilized



113 in the most efficient and effective manner possible to achieve the  
 114 intended mission of this agency. Based on the funding authorized,  
 115 this agency shall make every effort to attain the targeted  
 116 performance measures provided below:

117		FY2021
118	<u>Performance Measures</u>	<u>Target</u>
119	Support Services	
120	Hunting & Fishing Licenses Sold (Number Of)	450,000
121	Registration of Boats (Number Of)	50,000
122	Change in License Sales (%)	1.00
123	Change in Boat Registration (%)	1.00
124	Fisheries	
125	Fish Stock for Public Water (Fish)	2,000,000
126	Number of Customers of DWFP Lakes	60,000
127	Increase in Participation in Aquatic	
128	Education (%)	5.00
129	Number of Access Facilities Built or	
130	Maintained (Boat Ramps)	38
131	Wildlife	
132	MDWFP Management for Hunters &	
133	Non-consumptive Users (Man-days)	175,000
134	Research Projects Conducted to Sustain	
135	Healthy & Abundant Wildlife Populations	4
136	Acres of Forest Inventory	13,500
137	Acres of Prescribed Burning, Waterfowl	



138	Management, & Timber Management on WMA's	
139	to sustain Healthy and Abundant	
140	Wildlife	33,500
141	Percentage change in number of research	
142	projects conducted to sustain healthy	
143	and abundant wildlife populations	33.00
144	Change in number of Private Land Acres	
145	Influenced (%)	-69.00
146	Change in the number of Forest	
147	Inventories Conducted (%)	123.00
148	Law Enforcement	
149	Hunter Education (Participants)	8,000
150	Number of Hours Patrolled on Land	160,000
151	Number of Hours Patrolled on Water	72,000
152	Number of Criminal Investigations Conducted	9,000
153	Number of Shooting Sport Programs	650
154	Number of Boating Accidents	25
155	Number of Boating Fatalities	5
156	Cost per student for Hunter Education	48
157	Increase in Shooting Sports Program (%)	10.00
158	Change in number of Boating Accidents (%)	50.00
159	Change in Boating Related Fatalities (%)	50.00
160	Change in Public Contacts per	
161	Officer/per Day (%)	10.00
162	Special Projects	



163	Improve use of special funds (%)	0.20
164	Motor Vehicle Fund	
165	Vehicles Purchased	42
166	Used Vehicle Sold	42
167	Change in Number of Vehicles in the	
168	Fleet in Order to Maintain Efficient and	
169	Reliable Fleet of Vehicles (%)	0.00
170	Parks	
171	Overnight Accommodation (Cabins/Motels)	142,000
172	Overnight Accommodations (Camping)	730,000
173	Day Use Services (Persons)	455,000
174	Change in Day Use Services (%)	10.00
175	Change in the Prior Year of Occupancy	
176	Rate of Cabins (%)	2.00
177	Museum	
178	Statewide Education Programming	
179	(Participants)	125,000
180	Total Public Programming (Persons)	270,000
181	Number of Visitors to Exhibits	95,000
182	Number of Natural Heritage Records Entered	50,000
183	Increase in Students that Understand the	
184	Importance of Natural Resource	
185	Conservation (%)	2.00
186	Increase of Visitors to Exhibits (%)	1.00
187	Change in the number of Natural Heritage	







213 States Forest Service or any other agency if same should be  
214 necessary for the acquisition of land by lease or otherwise for  
215 such purposes.

216         **SECTION 10.** It shall be unlawful for any officer, employee  
217 or other person whatsoever to use or permit or authorize the use  
218 of any automobile or any other motor vehicle owned by the State of  
219 Mississippi or any department, agency or institution thereof for  
220 any purpose other than upon the official business of the State of  
221 Mississippi or any agency, department or institution thereof.

222         It is the intent of the Legislature that motor vehicles  
223 authorized to be owned and operated by this agency shall comply  
224 with Sections 25-1-77 through 25-1-93, Mississippi Code of 1972.

225         **SECTION 11.** In order to be in compliance with Section  
226 63-1-201 et seq., funds are herein provided and may be expended by  
227 the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks to pay the costs  
228 of commercial driver's licenses for specific employees and/or to  
229 reimburse such costs for specific employees who, in the course of  
230 their duties and responsibilities, are required to hold a valid  
231 Mississippi Commercial Driver's License.

232         **SECTION 12.** The Mississippi Department of Wildlife,  
233 Fisheries and Parks is authorized to provide financial support of  
234 One Hundred Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000.00) and to  
235 enter into an agreement with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension  
236 Service for a project specialist and related supportive cost.



237           **SECTION 13.** The department is authorized to spend up to  
238 sixty percent (60%) of revenue in the State Park Timber Endowment  
239 Fund, as needed, to operate and maintain the state parks.

240           **SECTION 14.** It is the intention of the Legislature that  
241 whenever two (2) or more bids are received by this agency for the  
242 purchase of commodities or equipment, and whenever all things  
243 stated in such received bids are equal with respect to price,  
244 quality and service, the Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
245 shall be given preference. A similar preference shall be given to  
246 the Mississippi Industries for the Blind whenever purchases are  
247 made without competitive bids.

248           **SECTION 15.** Of the funds appropriated herein, Two Hundred  
249 Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) may be provided to fund the Youth  
250 Participation Initiative for the purpose of educating children in  
251 the areas of hunting, fishing, conservation, and safety.

252           **SECTION 16.** The fund created pursuant to Section 49-5-21,  
253 Mississippi Code of 1972, and known as the "Fisheries and Wildlife  
254 Fund" shall be treated as a special trust fund. All funds derived  
255 from the sale of licenses, fees, fines and other revenues received  
256 by the department as provided by law, shall be deposited in the  
257 Fisheries and Wildlife Fund. In addition, revenue derived from  
258 the sale of timber on wildlife management areas, refuges and  
259 preserves shall be deposited into an account established for such  
260 revenues under the Fisheries and Wildlife Fund. The interest and  
261 any investment income earned on the fund shall be credited by the



262 State Treasurer to the Fisheries and Wildlife Fund and shall not  
263 be paid into the General Fund. Any unexpended funds remaining in  
264 the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse and shall  
265 remain in the fund. Nothing in this section shall prevent the use  
266 of said funds from maintenance and upgrade on wildlife management  
267 areas and state parks.

268 **SECTION 17.** It is the intention of the Legislature that no  
269 more than One Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars  
270 (\$1,300,000.00) be expended from the Motor Vehicle Fund for the  
271 purchase of any type of motor vehicle.

272 **SECTION 18.** The executive director of the Department of  
273 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks is authorized to enter into an  
274 agreement with public or private entity to manage any park or  
275 parks within the state park system.

276 **SECTION 19.** It is the intent of the Legislature that no  
277 state-owned wildlife management area be closed and that to the  
278 greatest practicable extent, department land management decisions  
279 and actions may not result in any net loss of any acreage  
280 available for hunting opportunities that existed on July 1, 2006,  
281 as provided in Section 49-5-99(4). It is the intention of the  
282 Legislature that no state park be closed without legislative  
283 approval.

284 **SECTION 20.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
285 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall have  
286 the authority to enter into multi-year contracts for the purpose



287 of placing a sign on such state park property under the  
288 department's domain, in accordance with any applicable rules and  
289 regulations. All proceeds generated from these activities shall  
290 remain with the department and shall be deposited into the proper  
291 special fund.

292       **SECTION 21.** It is the intent of the Legislature that from  
293 the funds available to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and  
294 Parks, the department may purchase and pay premium(s) on property  
295 damage insurance on its motor vehicles, boats, trailers, real  
296 property improvements, buildings, furnishings, and such other  
297 assets as may be appropriate or practical, and/or as required by a  
298 granting entity.

299       **SECTION 22.** Of the funds appropriated under the provisions  
300 of Section 2, One Million Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars  
301 (\$1,750,000.00) shall be designated for the purpose of defraying  
302 the operational expenses of Special Projects. None of these funds  
303 shall be used for "Personal Services".

304       **SECTION 23.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
305 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks shall have the  
306 authority to receive, budget and expend funds from the Gulf and  
307 Wildlife Protection Fund, not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars  
308 (\$50,000.00) for the purpose of preservation, protection,  
309 conservation, and acquisition of waters, land and wildlife of this  
310 state.



311           **SECTION 24.** It is the intention of the Legislature that the  
312 funds herein appropriated shall be expended in compliance with  
313 Section 27-104-25, Mississippi Code of 1972, that no state agency  
314 shall incur obligations or indebtedness in excess of their  
315 appropriation and that the responsible officers, either personally  
316 or upon their official bonds, shall be held responsible for  
317 actions contrary to this provision.

318           **SECTION 25.** The department is authorized to establish an  
319 annual golf pass for Mississippi residents, as defined by Section  
320 49-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, which will allow the holder of  
321 such pass to play golf at any golf course operated by the  
322 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at  
323 reduced rates. The department shall have the authority to  
324 establish the fee for issuance of the annual golf pass. All funds  
325 generated from the sale of the Mississippi resident annual golf  
326 pass shall be deposited into the Mississippi Park Fund established  
327 by Section 55-3-41, Mississippi Code of 1972.

328           **SECTION 26.** Of the funds appropriated in Section 1, it is  
329 the intention of the Legislature that Fifty-eight Thousand Five  
330 Hundred Ninety-three Dollars (\$58,593.00) may be allocated for the  
331 Hunter Education program supported from the General Fund court  
332 assessments.

333           **SECTION 27.** The money herein appropriated shall be paid by  
334 the State Treasurer out of any money in the State Treasury to the  
335 credit of the proper fund or funds as set forth in this act, upon



336 warrants issued by the State Fiscal Officer; and the State Fiscal  
337 Officer shall issue his warrants upon requisitions signed by the  
338 proper person, officer or officers, in the manner provided by law.

339         **SECTION 28.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
340 and after July 1, 2020, and shall stand repealed June 30, 2020.

