

By: Representatives Pigott, Hale

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1065

1 AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 49-7-31.5 AND 49-7-140,
2 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH RELATE TO THE HUNTING AND TRAPPING
3 OF NUISANCE ANIMALS AND THE IMPORTATION AND RELEASE OF WILD HOGS,
4 FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-31.5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 brought forward as follows:

8 49-7-31.5. (1) The hunting, trapping and taking of nuisance
9 animals shall be regulated by the commission. The commission may
10 adopt regulations to regulate the hunting, trapping and taking of
11 nuisance animals and to control the population of nuisance
12 animals.

13 (2) (a) Landowners, agricultural leaseholders or their
14 designated agents may take predatory and nuisance animals
15 year-round on lands owned or leased by them.

16 (b) Landowners, agricultural leaseholders or their
17 designated agents may take nuisance animals with any type of
18 weapon and may take nuisance animals during the night after legal



19 hunting hours on lands owned or leased by them with a permit
20 issued by the department.

21 (c) No license is required for a resident landowner
22 hunting or trapping nuisance animals on his own land. An
23 agricultural leaseholder, designated agent and any other person
24 must possess either an all-game hunting license or trapping
25 license, unless otherwise exempt.

26 (d) No license is required for a recipient of the
27 Purple Heart Medal for wounds suffered in combat, to hunt nuisance
28 animals on private lands. Persons exempt from purchasing a
29 hunting license under this paragraph shall have in their
30 possession and on their person a copy of their DD-214 discharge
31 form indicating the receipt of the Purple Heart Medal and any
32 proof as may be required by the commission or the Department of
33 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, while engaged in such activities.

34 (3) The taking of any animal or animals other than nuisance
35 animals by the use of a trap or traps is unlawful except during
36 the time the season is open for the taking of fur-bearing animals.

37 (4) Nuisance animals may be run, chased or pursued with
38 dogs, except as provided in Section 49-7-32, year-round by
39 licensed hunters.

40 (5) Nuisance animals may be hunted with the aid of
41 electronic calls.



42 (6) Nuisance animals may be hunted or trapped with the aid
43 of bait and lures, on private lands, according to regulations
44 adopted by the commission.

45 (7) Any part of a nuisance animal may be bought and sold
46 year-round.

47 (8) (a) Wild hogs may not be caught or trapped and released
48 into the wild at a location different from the location where the
49 wild hog was caught or trapped.

50 (b) A violation of this subsection is a Class I
51 violation and is punishable as provided under Section 49-7-141.

52 (9) When hunting wild hogs during any open gun season on
53 deer, a hunter must wear in full view at least five hundred (500)
54 square inches of solid unbroken fluorescent orange.

55 **SECTION 2.** Section 49-7-140, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
56 brought forward as follows:

57 49-7-140. (1) No person may import into the state or
58 release into the wild, any live feral hog, wild swine or Russian
59 Boar.

60 (2) No person may transport on public roads or off of the
61 property of record where captured or relocate within the state any
62 live feral hog, wild swine or Russian Boar, except as permitted by
63 the department.

64 (3) For the purposes of this section, "feral hogs, wild
65 swine or Russian Boar" are defined as any hog that is not a
66 domesticated pet or livestock.



67 (4) A violation of this section is a Class I violation
68 punishable as provided in Section 49-7-141.

69 (5) (a) Wild hogs may be caught or trapped and transported
70 within the State of Mississippi, with a permit, issued by the
71 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. Wild
72 hogs may not be released or removed alive from any mobile device
73 or vehicle, except that wild hogs may be released alive for the
74 purpose of slaughter into an enclosure no larger than five hundred
75 (500) square feet in size and constructed in a manner that
76 prevents the escape of any wild hog, or to a facility where the
77 hog may be immediately prepared for slaughter. The commission
78 shall promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of a hog
79 transportation permit consistent with this subsection, provided
80 that the authority to issue such a permit is based on the
81 determination that the individuals, at the time of requesting such
82 permit:

83 (i) Does not have a history of repeat hunting
84 offenses; or

85 (ii) Has not had his or her hunting privileges
86 revoked.

87 (b) Any person transporting a live wild hog within the
88 State of Mississippi must first obtain from the Mississippi
89 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, a live wild hog
90 transportation permit, as provided above, for each wild hog being
91 transported.



92 (c) A violation of any regulation of the commission
93 promulgated under the authority provided in this section shall be
94 a Class I violation and punishable as provided in Section
95 49-7-141. In addition to the penalties provided therein, upon
96 conviction, the violator shall forfeit all hunting, trapping and
97 fishing privileges for a period of one (1) year from the date of
98 conviction.

99 (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit
100 the lawful transport of domestic swine for customary and ordinary
101 purposes of intrastate or interstate commerce, or agricultural
102 practices.

103 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
104 and after July 1, 2022.

