

By: Representative Zuber

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 49

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-153, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
 2 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO  
 3 ISSUE A NATIVE SON OR DAUGHTER RESIDENT LIFETIME SPORTSMAN HUNTING  
 4 AND FISHING LICENSE IF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS REFLECT THAT ONE OF THE  
 5 APPLICANT'S PARENTS WAS BORN IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND WAS  
 6 ON ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICANT'S BIRTH;  
 7 TO REQUIRE AN APPLICANT FOR SUCH LICENSE TO PROVIDE A CERTIFIED  
 8 COPY OF AN ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE OF SUCH PARENT SHOWING THAT  
 9 THE PARENT WAS BORN IN MISSISSIPPI AND PROVIDE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS  
 10 INDICATING THAT SUCH PARENT WAS ON ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE AT THE  
 11 TIME OF THE APPLICANT'S BIRTH; TO PROVIDE THAT AN APPLICANT FOR  
 12 SUCH LICENSE SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO HAVE BEEN DOMICILED IN THIS  
 13 STATE FOR EIGHTEEN CONSECUTIVE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE  
 14 DATE OF HIS OR HER APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE; AND FOR RELATED  
 15 PURPOSES.

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

17 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-153, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 18 amended as follows:

19 49-7-153. (1) Any resident may purchase a lifetime  
 20 sportsman hunting and fishing license by filing an application in  
 21 the office of the department. The license shall qualify the  
 22 licensee to take all fish, game and fowl, except waterfowl,  
 23 including deer and turkey, in the manner provided by law. The  
 24 license shall also permit the licensee to hunt with primitive



25 weapons and bow and arrow, and to fish in the public waters of the  
26 state, including the taking of crabs, oysters, shrimp and any  
27 saltwater fish authorized to be taken under a recreational  
28 license.

29 (2) The department may issue a resident lifetime sportsman  
30 license at a fee to be determined by the commission at an amount  
31 not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for a person  
32 thirteen (13) years of age or older and not less than Five Hundred  
33 Dollars (\$500.00) for a person under thirteen (13) years of age.  
34 All lifetime licenses shall be issued from the office of the  
35 department. Each application for a lifetime license must be  
36 accompanied by a certified copy of the birth certificate of the  
37 individual to be named as the license holder, if the individual is  
38 twelve (12) years of age or under.

39 (3) The commission shall establish proof of residency  
40 requirements for the purchase of a lifetime license, and shall  
41 also establish such restrictions on and regulations for lifetime  
42 licenses as it deems necessary and proper. Except as otherwise  
43 provided in this section, an applicant for a resident lifetime  
44 license must have been domiciled in this state for eighteen (18)  
45 consecutive months immediately preceding the date of his  
46 application for a license. The burden of proving domicile shall  
47 be on the applicant.

48 (4) The department may issue a native son or daughter  
49 resident lifetime sportsman hunting and fishing license if



50 official documents reflect that one of the applicant's parents was  
51 born in the State of Mississippi and was on active military  
52 service at the time of the applicant's birth.

53 Such license may be issued at a fee to be determined by the  
54 commission at an amount not less than One Thousand Dollars  
55 (\$1,000.00) for a person thirteen (13) years of age or older and  
56 not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for a person under  
57 thirteen (13) years of age.

58 The applicant must provide a certified copy of an original  
59 birth certificate of such parent showing that the parent was born  
60 in Mississippi and provide official documents indicating that such  
61 parent was on active military service at the time of the  
62 applicant's birth.

63 An applicant for such license shall not be required to  
64 have been domiciled in this state for eighteen (18) consecutive  
65 months immediately preceding the date of his or her application  
66 for a license.

67 ( \* \* \*5) The department may issue a native son or daughter  
68 nonresident lifetime sportsman hunting and fishing license. The  
69 commission shall establish the fee, but the fee shall not be less  
70 than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00). The applicant  
71 must provide a certified copy of the original birth certificate  
72 showing that the applicant was born in Mississippi and/or if the  
73 parents' address was in Mississippi at the time of birth as shown  
74 on the birth certificate or other documents and/or official



75 documents reflect that one of said parents was on active military  
76 service outside the State of Mississippi at the time of said  
77 birth.

78       \* \* \* Except as otherwise provided in this section, if the  
79 birth certificate of each parent reflects that each parent was  
80 born in the State of Mississippi, then any child born outside the  
81 State of Mississippi of those parents may be issued a nonresident  
82 lifetime sportsman license for the above set out fee.

83       ( \* \* \* 6) Any materially false statement contained in an  
84 application for a lifetime license renders void the license issued  
85 pursuant to that application, and subjects the applicant to  
86 criminal prosecution under Section 49-7-45.

87       ( \* \* \* 7) Nothing in this section exempts an applicant for a  
88 lifetime license from meeting other qualifications or requirements  
89 otherwise established by law for the privilege of hunting or  
90 fishing.

91       **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
92 and after July 1, 2023.

