MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Senator(s) Seymour

REGULAR SESSION 2023

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks; Judiciary, Division B

SENATE BILL NO. 2411

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 97-15-13, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, 2 TO CLARIFY THE PROHIBITION AGAINST HUNTING ON ANY STREET, PUBLIC 3 ROAD, PUBLIC HIGHWAY, LEVEE OR RAILROAD; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 5 SECTION 1. Section 97-15-13, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows: 6 97-15-13. (1) * * * For purposes of this section, the 7 8 following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them herein: 9 (a) "Right-of-way" means that part of a street, public road, public highway, levee or railroad maintained by a city, 10 11 county, levee board, state or federal entity or railroad corporation and including that portion up to the adjacent property 12 13 line or fence line. * * * 14 (* * *b) "Firearm" means any firearm * * *. 15 * * * 16 17 (* * *2) If any person * * * discharges or attempts to 18 discharge any firearm in, on or across any street, public road, S. B. No. 2411 G1/2~ OFFICIAL ~ 23/SS08/R807 PAGE 1 (icj\tb)

19 public highway, levee, railroad or the right-of-way thereof, such 20 person is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor 21 22 more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment in the 23 county jail for not less than sixty (60) days nor more than six 24 (6) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. This subsection shall not apply to any law enforcement officer while in 25 26 the performance of his official duty or to any person engaged in a 27 lawful action of self-defense. It shall not be a violation of 28 this section to lawfully be in possession of a firearm in a motor 29 vehicle, or to ingress or egress from a motor vehicle parked on a 30 right-of-way to lawfully access a site off the right-of-way or 31 return from a lawfully accessed site off the right-of-way. The 32 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any person 33 engaged in a lawful action to protect his property or livestock. 34 (* * *3) If any person shall willfully shoot any firearms 35 or hurl any missile at any street, highway or railroad traffic light; street, highway or railroad marker or other sign for the 36 37 regulation or designation of street, highway or railroad travel, 38 such person, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than One 39 Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars 40 (\$500.00), or be imprisoned not longer than thirty (30) days in 41 the county jail, or both.

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42 $(\star \star \star \underline{4})$ It shall be the duty of all sheriffs, deputy 43 sheriffs, constables, conservation officers and peace officers of 44 this state to enforce the provisions of this section.

(***<u>5</u>) If any subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or any part of this section is hereafter declared to be unconstitutional or void, or if for any reason is declared to be invalid or of no effect, the remaining subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases or parts thereof shall be in no manner affected thereby but shall remain in full force and effect.

51 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from 52 and after July 1, 2023.