

By: Senator(s) Whaley

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2556

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-1-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CONSERVATION OFFICER;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-1-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 49-1-15. (1) All appointments of conservation officers
8 shall be under rules adopted and promulgated by the commission.
9 No person shall be appointed from and after July 1, 2001, unless
10 he meets the following requirements:

11 (a) Is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

12 (b) Has successfully completed sixty-four (64) semester
13 hours at an accredited community college or university or has an
14 associate degree from an accredited community college or has
15 passed the Law Enforcement Academy and has at least * * * two (2)
16 years experience in law enforcement.

17 (2) Each applicant, prior to entering into performance of
18 his duties, at the expense of the department, shall attend and



19 complete an appropriate curriculum in the field of law enforcement
20 at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy or
21 other training academy whose curriculum complies with requirements
22 of the Board on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Training.
23 Conservation officers shall, on a periodic basis, be required to
24 successfully complete additional advanced courses in law
25 enforcement in order that they will be properly improved and
26 trained in the modern, technical advances of law enforcement.

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

