

By: Senator(s) Suber

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and  
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2281

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL PERSONS 16 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO  
2 PROCURE A HABITAT STAMP BEFORE HUNTING, FISHING OR TRAPPING ANY  
3 SPECIES IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; TO ESTABLISH THE FEE FOR  
4 NONRESIDENT HUNTERS, FISHERS AND TRAPPERS AND PROVIDE THAT THERE  
5 SHALL BE NO FEE FOR RESIDENT HUNTERS, FISHERS OR TRAPPERS; TO  
6 PROVIDE FOR THE FURNISHING OF THE STAMP; TO SET PENALTIES FOR  
7 VIOLATIONS; TO PROVIDE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH FUNDS RAISED FROM  
8 THE SALE OF STAMPS MAY BE EXPENDED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** (1) For the purposes of this section, the  
11 following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed  
12 herein unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 (a) "Stamp" means the state habitat stamp, either in  
14 its physical or electronic form, furnished by the commission. A  
15 stamp is a specialized permit required for hunting, fishing or  
16 trapping any species, with proceeds directly dispersed into the  
17 conservation, management, protection or scientific research of  
18 various wildlife species.

19 (b) "Nongovernmental entity" means a nonprofit  
20 organization primarily concerned with the protection and



21 conservation of land and natural resources, as evidenced by its  
22 organizational documents.

23 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person sixteen (16) years  
24 of age or older to hunt, fish or trap any species in the State of  
25 Mississippi without first having procured a stamp. The electronic  
26 stamp on file with the commission shall serve as proof of  
27 procurement.

28 (3) The fee to nonresident hunters, fishers and trappers for  
29 each stamp shall be Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). There shall be  
30 no fee for resident hunters, fishers and trappers. Each stamp  
31 shall expire one (1) year from the date of its procurement.

32 (4) The commission shall determine the form of the stamp.  
33 The commission shall furnish physical stamps to bonded agents for  
34 issuance or sale in the same manner as other types of licenses or  
35 shall cause the electronic stamp to accrue to the purchaser's  
36 benefit when purchased from an automated point-of-sale source.

37 (5) Any person violating any of the provisions of this  
38 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction,  
39 shall be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more  
40 than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) as prescribed in Section  
41 49-7-101.

42 (6) All revenue from the proceeds of stamps shall be used  
43 and expended only for the following objectives:



44 (a) Restoring, enhancing or protecting wildlife  
45 populations or their habitats on public or private lands in  
46 Mississippi as prescribed by the department;

47 (b) Funding scientific research, as conducted by  
48 qualified professionals, into the ecology or management of various  
49 species of wildlife, their habitats or their predators; and

50 (c) Increasing access to publicly available hunting,  
51 fishing and trapping opportunities.

52 (7) Proceeds from stamps may be used as matching funds or  
53 fiscal leverage to secure grants or other financial awards that  
54 are deemed to align with the objectives in subsection (6) of this  
55 section.

56 (8) The commission may enter into agreements with other  
57 state, federal or nongovernmental entities to execute the  
58 objectives in subsection (6) of this section.

59 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a new  
60 section in Title 49, Chapter 7, Mississippi Code of 1972.

61 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
62 and after July 1, 2025.

