Senate Amendments to House Bill No. 1637

TO THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE:

THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE AMENDMENTS SET OUT BELOW:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- 7 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-79, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 8 amended as follows:
- 9 49-7-79. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to
- 10 knowingly enter the lands of another without the permission of, or
- 11 without being accompanied by, the landowner or the lessee of the
- 12 land, or the agent of such landowner or lessee, to hunt, fish,
- 13 shoot, or trap on the lands or leases of another.
- 14 (2) Any person convicted of violating subsection (1) of this
- 15 section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction,
- 16 shall be punished for the first offense by a fine of not less than
- 17 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), nor more than One Thousand Dollars
- 18 (\$1,000.00). Upon conviction of any person for a second or
- 19 subsequent offense, with the offenses being committed within five
- 20 (5) years of the last offense, such person shall be punished by a
- 21 fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), nor more
- than One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00).

- 23 (3) Any person convicted of a second or subsequent offense
- 24 under subsection (1) of this section, the offenses being committed
- 25 within a five-year period, shall also forfeit all hunting,
- 26 trapping, and fishing privileges for a period of one (1) year.
- 27 Such person shall pay a reinstatement fee of Five Hundred Dollars
- 28 (\$500.00) to have his or her privileges restored.
- 29 (4) Any animal, bird, fish, or parts thereof, that have been
- 30 unlawfully taken or possessed in violation of subsection (1) of
- 31 this section shall be seized by a law enforcement officer and
- 32 disposed of by the department, or under its direction.
- 33 (5) In addition to any fine or penalty assessed due to a
- 34 violation of this section, a person convicted of violating
- 35 subsection (1) of this section \star \star who unlawfully takes or
- 36 possesses any fish caught from a private lake, private pond or
- 37 other private waterbody shall make restitution to the landowner
- 38 owning the private pond or other private waterbody in the amount
- 39 of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each fish taken or possessed
- 40 in violation of this section. The total amount of restitution
- 41 authorized by this paragraph shall be paid to the landowner * * *.
- 42 (6) (a) In addition to any other fine or penalty assessed
- 43 due to a violation of this section, a person convicted of
- 44 violating subsection (1) of this section who unlawfully takes or
- 45 possesses any wild animal, wild bird or parts of a wild animal or
- 46 wild bird shall be required to make restitution by paying an
- 47 assessment of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), nor
- 48 more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), for each wild animal or

- 49 wild bird or parts of a wild animal or wild bird taken or
- 50 possessed in violation of this section. The total amount of this
- 51 assessment may not exceed an aggregate total of Two Thousand
- 52 Dollars (\$2,000.00) regardless of the number of wild animals or
- 53 wild birds or parts of wild animals or wild birds unlawfully taken
- 54 or possessed in violation of this section.
- 55 (b) The clerk of the court shall collect and deposit
- 56 the assessments collected pursuant to this subsection with the
- 57 State Treasurer in the same manner and in accordance with the same
- 58 procedures, as nearly as practicable, as required for the
- 59 collection and deposit of other state assessments under Section
- 60 99-19-73.
- 61 (c) The restitution assessment collected pursuant to
- 62 this subsection must be credited to the Department of Wildlife,
- 63 Fisheries and Parks and deposited in the Fisheries and Wildlife
- 64 Fund created in Section 49-5-21 for the purposes of wildlife and
- 65 sport fish restoration.
- 66 (d) Restitution assessment monies collected pursuant to
- 67 this subsection may be expended by the department upon
- 68 appropriation by the Legislature.
- 69 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 70 and after its passage.

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-79, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE AMOUNT OF RESTITUTION PAYABLE TO A LANDOWNER BY A

- 3 PERSON CONVICTED OF FISHING ON ANOTHER'S LAND AND TO REQUIRE THE
- 4 PAYMENT OF AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE TAKING OF WILD ANIMALS AND BIRDS
- 5 ON ANOTHER'S LAND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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Amanda White Secretary of the Senate