

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott

To: Ports and Marine Resources; Wildlife and Fisheries

SENATE BILL NO. 2528

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-111, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REQUIRE THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO
3 SHARE A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF FEDERAL OR NONSTATE FUNDS FOR BOAT
4 AND WATER SAFETY WITH THE COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 59-21-111, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 59-21-111. (1) The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife,
10 Fisheries and Parks shall be the Mississippi Boat and Water Safety
11 Commission, and shall exercise the duties and responsibilities of
12 the Mississippi Boat and Water Safety Commission through the
13 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, insofar
14 as practicable under the provisions of Chapter 4 of Title 49,
15 Mississippi Code of 1972; except on marine waters under the
16 jurisdiction of the Commission on Marine Resources.

17 (2) The Commission on Marine Resources shall exercise the
18 duties and responsibilities of the Mississippi Boat and Water
19 Safety Commission through the Mississippi Department of Marine
20 Resources on the marine waters of the state. The Commission on
21 Marine Resources shall not exercise any powers related to
22 numbering of undocumented vessels. Those powers are vested
23 exclusively in the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

24 (3) The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks and the
25 Commission on Marine Resources shall enter into a memorandum of
26 agreement to share in the use of any federal or other nonstate
27 funds awarded for boat and water safety and the funds shall be
28 timely distributed. The memorandum shall provide that the



29 Department of Marine Resources, on behalf of the Commission on
30 Marine Resources, shall be awarded at least twenty-five percent
31 (25%) of the total amount of such funds for use on boat and water
32 safety related programs.

33 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
34 and after July 1, 2002.

