

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott

To: Ports and Marine Resources

SENATE BILL NO. 2543

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-30, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO CLARIFY THAT RECIPROCITY LICENSE FEE REQUIREMENTS APPLY ONLY TO
3 COMMERCIAL MARINE FISHERMEN LICENSES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-15-30, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 49-15-30. (1) The commission may promulgate rules and
8 regulations for nonresident permits in order to promote reciprocal
9 agreements with other states.

10 (2) The commission may provide that residents of other
11 states bordering on the Gulf of Mexico who are applicants for a
12 commercial fishing license of any type as provided for in this
13 chapter shall pay the same fee or fees that a resident of this
14 state pays in this state for that license if the respective
15 applicant's domicile state does not charge a greater fee or fees
16 for a Mississippi resident than for a resident of any other state
17 to engage in a like activity in the other state. If the
18 applicant's domicile state does charge a greater fee or fees for
19 residents of Mississippi for a commercial license than for a
20 resident of the applicant's domicile state, then that applicant
21 shall pay the same fee or fees that the applicant's domicile state
22 charges residents of Mississippi.

23 (3) The commission may require * * * nonresident commercial
24 fishermen to purchase the same type and number of licenses and pay
25 the same fees that are required of Mississippi residents to engage
26 in like activity in the nonresident's state.



27 (4) If an applicant applies for a nonresident commercial
28 fishing license to engage in a certain activity and the
29 applicant's state does not issue a nonresident commercial fishing
30 license for that activity, then the commission shall not issue
31 such license to the applicant.

32 (5) Any nonresident who engages in the commercial taking of
33 seafood within the territorial waters of Mississippi without
34 having the required nonresident commercial license is guilty of a
35 misdemeanor and shall be fined Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)
36 and shall forfeit any equipment, gear or nets used in the offense.

37 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
38 and after its passage.

