

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott

To: Ports and Marine Resources; Wildlife and Fisheries

SENATE BILL NO. 2552

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-15-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES TO SELL LICENSES
3 BY ELECTRONIC MEANS; TO PROVIDE A FEE FOR A REPLACEMENT LICENSE;
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-15-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 49-15-29. (1) The commission shall assess and collect,
9 license fees and taxes as authorized under this chapter.

10 (2) All commercial licenses provided for under this chapter
11 that relate to seafood shall be purchased from May 1 through April
12 30 at the fees provided in this chapter. The licenses shall
13 expire on April 30 following the date of issuance. If a
14 commercial license is lost or destroyed, a licensee shall obtain a
15 replacement license for a fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00). The
16 license shall be clearly marked as a replacement license.

17 (3) When an application for an original or renewal license
18 of any kind authorized by this chapter is received by the
19 commission, the commission shall determine whether the vessel or
20 related equipment subject to that license is owned and operated in
21 compliance with applicable federal and state laws. If the
22 commission determines that a vessel or its owner is not in
23 compliance with applicable federal and state laws, then no license
24 shall be issued or renewed for the operation of that vessel for a
25 period of one (1) year. All licenses shall be made available for
26 purchase at any building which is regularly operated by the
27 department or commission on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.



28 (4) The commission may authorize any person, other than a
29 salaried employee of the state to issue any license under this
30 chapter which the commission deems appropriate. The authorized
31 person may collect and retain for issuance of the license the sum
32 of One Dollar (\$1.00) in addition to the license fee provided in
33 this chapter. The commission shall establish the qualifications
34 of persons authorized to issue licenses under this section and
35 shall also establish the procedure for the issuance of that
36 license by the authorized person and the procedure for collection
37 of license fees by and from the authorized person.

38 (5) The commission may design, establish and administer a
39 program to provide for the purchase, by electronic means, of any
40 license permit, registration or reservation issued by the
41 commission or department. Any actual costs associated with making
42 licenses available by electronic means may be added to the cost of
43 the electronic licensing program.

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

