

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife and Fisheries

## SENATE BILL NO. 2783

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO PROVIDE THAT CANOES FOR HIRE SHALL HAVE A SEPARATE CERTIFICATE  
3 OF NUMBER; TO BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 59-21-3 AND 59-21-19,  
4 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 59-21-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 59-21-27. An owner of more than one (1) livery boat or canoe  
9 shall be entitled to be awarded certificates of number for all  
10 such vessels on the payment of fees provided in Section 59-21-25.  
11 Each vessel shall have a separate and distinct number and shall be  
12 issued a separate certificate of number. Certificates of number  
13 under this section may be renewed on the payment of a single fee  
14 provided in Section 59-21-25.

15 **SECTION 2.** Section 59-21-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
16 brought forward as follows:

17 59-21-3. As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly  
18 requires a different meaning:

19 (a) "Commission" means the Mississippi Commission on  
20 Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

21 (b) "Length" means the length of the vessel measured  
22 from end to end over the deck excluding sheer.

23 (c) "Livery boat" means any boat for rent or hire.

24 (d) "Machinery" means inboard and outboard engines and  
25 all other types of motors or mechanical devices.

26 (e) "Motorboat" means any undocumented vessel propelled  
27 by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal



28 source of propulsion. The term motorboat includes personal  
29 watercraft.

30 (f) "Operate" means to navigate or otherwise use a  
31 motorboat or vessel.

32 (g) "Operator" means the person who operates or who has  
33 charge of the navigation or use of a motorboat or a vessel.

34 (h) "Owner" means the person who claims lawful  
35 possession of a vessel by virtue of legal title or equitable  
36 interest therein which entitles him to such possession.

37 (i) "Person" means an individual, partnership, firm,  
38 corporation, association or other entity.

39 (j) "Ships' lifeboats" means lifeboats used solely for  
40 lifesaving purposes and does not include dinghies, tenders,  
41 speedboats, or other type of craft carried aboard a vessel and  
42 used for other than lifesaving purposes.

43 (k) "Undocumented vessel" means any vessel which is not  
44 required to have, and does not have, a valid marine document  
45 issued by the Bureau of Customs.

46 (l) "Vessel" means every description of watercraft,  
47 other than seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as  
48 a means of transportation on water.

49 (m) "Waters of this state" means any waters within the  
50 territorial limits of this state, and the marginal sea adjacent to  
51 this state and the high seas when navigated as a part of a journey  
52 or ride to or from the shore of the state; however, "waters of  
53 this state" does not mean any private pond or lake which is not  
54 used for boat rentals or the charging of fees for fishing therein.

55 **SECTION 3.** Section 59-21-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
56 brought forward as follows:

57 59-21-19. (1) The certificate of number shall be  
58 pocket-size, approximately two and one-half inches (2-1/2") by  
59 three and one-half inches (3-1/2"), and water resistant.



60           (2) Pending the issuance of the original certificate of  
61 number, the owner of the vessel may be furnished a temporary  
62 certificate of number valid for sixty (60) days from the date of  
63 issue. This temporary certificate shall be carried on board when  
64 the vessel is being operated.

65           (3) Each applicant for an original or transfer certificate  
66 of number, who is entitled to issuance thereof, shall be issued a  
67 certificate for a period of two (2) years from the last day of the  
68 month of receipt of the original or transfer certificate. This  
69 subsection shall not apply to the certificate of number of a  
70 livery boat.

71           (4) The certificate of number of a livery boat shall be  
72 plainly marked "livery boat." The description of the motor and  
73 type of fuel will be omitted from the certificate of number in any  
74 case where the motor is not rented with the boat. Original and  
75 renewal certificates of number of a livery boat shall be valid for  
76 a period of two (2) years and shall expire at midnight on June 30  
77 of each biennium beginning June 30, 1971.

78           (5) Numbers and certificates of number awarded boats  
79 operated by manufacturers and dealers may be transferred from one  
80 (1) boat to another. In lieu of the description, the word  
81 "manufacturer" or "dealer," as appropriate, will be plainly marked  
82 on each certificate. The manufacturer or dealer may have the  
83 number awarded printed upon or attached to a removable sign or  
84 signs to be temporarily mounted upon or attached to the boat being  
85 demonstrated or tested so long as the display meets the  
86 requirements of section 59-21-9.

87           **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
88 and after July 1, 2002.

