

By: Senator(s) Posey

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

SENATE BILL NO. 2897

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-41, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT THE FOUR-POINT RESTRICTION ON LEGAL BUCKS SHALL NOT
3 APPLY DURING SPECIAL YOUTH HUNTS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 49-7-41. (1) The commission may set the bag limits for game
8 animals, birds and fish, unless the bag limits are established by
9 the Legislature by statute.

10 (2) (a) The bag limit on antlered deer is one (1) per day,
11 not to exceed three (3) per license year. An antlered deer must
12 have antlers of four (4) points or greater to be taken except as
13 provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection.

14 (b) An antlered deer with less than four (4) points may
15 be taken by permit if it is necessary to manage deer on lands
16 under the deer management assistance program or wildlife
17 management areas. A written management justification issued by
18 the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks must accompany any
19 request for such a permit. Any antlered deer with less than four
20 (4) points harvested under this permit must be identified with a
21 tag immediately upon possession. Antlered deer taken by permit
22 shall be subject to the daily bag limit but shall not be subject
23 to the annual bag limit on antlered deer. The department shall
24 include a report on permits issued, to whom issued and deer
25 harvested in the department's annual deer program report.

26 (c) An antlered deer with less than four (4) points may
27 be taken during special youth hunts established by the commission.

28 (3) (a) The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per
29 day, not to exceed three (3) per license year; except that two (2)
30 additional antlerless deer per license year may be taken with a
31 bow and arrow. Antlerless deer may be taken only in the areas
32 prescribed by order of the commission. It is illegal to take a
33 spotted fawn in any season.

34 (b) It is unlawful for a nonresident to kill an
35 antlerless deer except: (i) a nonresident may take antlerless
36 deer on lands that the title is vested in the nonresident or on
37 lands that the nonresident has leased the hunting and fishing
38 rights; or (ii) a nonresident who has a native son or daughter
39 nonresident lifetime sportsman license or a resident lifetime
40 sportsman license may take antlerless deer on private lands,
41 wildlife management areas or national wildlife refuges.

42 (4) The bag limit on antlerless deer set by this section
43 shall not apply to private lands under the deer management
44 assistance program or the fee-based antlerless program as approved
45 by the department.

46 (5) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, 2005.

47 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 2004.