

By: Representative Lott

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 444

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-148, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO  
3 ALLOW HANDICAPPED HUNTERS TO USE ATVS IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS  
4 DURING HUNTING SEASON FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES; AND FOR RELATED  
5 PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-148, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 49-7-148. The department \* \* \* may provide handicapped  
10 hunters reasonable access to hunting areas in public wildlife  
11 management areas under its jurisdiction. The commission \* \* \*  
12 shall promulgate rules and regulations for reasonable access and  
13 include a definition of "handicapped hunters" as used in this  
14 section. The department may allow such hunters to use all-terrain  
15 vehicles in wildlife management areas during hunting season. If  
16 the commission allows the use of all-terrain vehicles, the  
17 department shall issue a special permit to use all-terrain  
18 vehicles and the person must have the permit in possession when  
19 operating such vehicle in a wildlife management area.

20 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
21 and after July 1, 2005.