

By: Representatives Nicholson, Bounds

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 623

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE HUNTING OR KILLING OF
3 DEER WITH THE AID OF BAIT; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE,
4 FISHERIES AND PARKS AND MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY TO ESTABLISH
5 A BEST PRACTICE PROCEDURE FOR THE SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING OF
6 WILDLIFE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 49-7-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 49-7-33. (1) It is unlawful to hunt, trap or kill any wild
11 bird or wild animal of any kind with the aid of bait, recordings
12 of bird or animal calls, or electrically amplified imitations of
13 calls of any kind, except a person:

14 (a) May use electrically amplified sound devices for
15 hunting coyote and crow;

16 (b) May use liquid scents for any animal or bird; and

17 (c) May use lures for trapping furbearing animals,
18 beaver, coyote, fox and nutria according to regulations adopted by
19 the commission; and

20 (d) May hunt deer with the aid of bait if the bait is
21 not within the hunter's immediate line of sight. Unless a person
22 is openly and visibly hunting deer with the aid of bait within his
23 immediate line of sight, law enforcement officers of the
24 department may not issue a citation or fine any person.

25 (2) The commission, in its discretion, may relax the
26 restrictions regarding the use of lures or sound devices if a
27 condition arises or exists, as decided by the State Board of
28 Health or county board of health, that may endanger persons or
29 livestock in a certain community, county or area.

30 (3) A person may use bait to trap wild hogs as defined in
31 Section 49-7-140 during the period between the end of Spring
32 turkey season and the beginning of deer season with bow and arrow.

33 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks,
34 in cooperation with Mississippi State University, shall establish
35 a best practice procedure for the supplemental feeding of wildlife
36 and provide a report of its findings, conclusions and
37 recommendation to the committees on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
38 of the House and Senate by November 1, 2007.

39 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2007.