4/18 5:29p

Chapter No. 422
12/SS01/R674PS
JN /TB/EC

SENATE BILL NO. 2325

Originated in Senate _____ Secretary

SENATE BILL NO. 2325

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 49-7-58.3 AND SECTION 49-11-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXTEND THE REPEALERS ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS TO REGULATE THE HUNTING ON NONNATIVE CERVIDS IN ENCLOSURES; TO INCREASE THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 49-11-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 49-7-58.3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

49-7-58.3. (1) The commission * * * may regulate the hunting of nonnative cervids in noncommercial wildlife enclosures, and the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks may enforce such regulations and laws in the same manner as commercial wildlife enclosures as provided in Section 49-11-25.

(2) A violation of this section is a Class I violation and punishable as provided in Section 49-7-141.

(3) This section shall repeal on July 1, 2014.

SECTION 2. Section 49-11-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

49-11-3. (1) The department may issue operating licenses to any person, partnership, association or corporation for the operation of shooting preserves or commercial wildlife enclosures that meet the following requirements and any applicable regulations:

(a) Each shooting preserve shall contain a minimum of one hundred (100) acres in one (1) tract of leased or owned land (including water area, if any) and shall be restricted to not more than six hundred forty (640) contiguous acres (including water

area, if any), except that preserves confined to the releasing of ducks only may be authorized to operate with a minimum of fifty (50) contiguous acres (including water area).

(b) The boundaries of each shooting preserve shall be clearly defined and posted with signs erected at intervals of three hundred (300) feet or less.

(c) Each commercial wildlife enclosure shall contain a minimum of three hundred (300) acres in one (1) tract of leased or owned land (including water area, if any). No commercial wildlife enclosure shall be constructed in such a manner as to allow ingress of native wild animals without providing means of egress.

(d) The preserve or enclosure must be privately owned and operated.

(2) The commission may issue any rules or regulations necessary to regulate shooting preserves and commercial wildlife enclosures and to enforce this chapter.

(3) (a) The commission may regulate the hunting of nonnative cervids within a commercial wildlife enclosure, and the department may enter such enclosure as provided under Section 49-11-25 and enforce such regulations.

(b) This subsection (3) shall repeal on July 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. Section 49-11-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

49-11-27. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this chapter is guilty of a Class I violation, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in Section 49-7-141. A multiple violator of this chapter shall be assessed double the maximum allowable fine * * *.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

PASSED BY THE SENATE
March 7, 2012

Tate Reeves

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 5, 2012

Philip Gunn

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR

Phil Bryant

GOVERNOR

5:29 pm