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# Commission on Marine Resources Special Session

May 27, 2020



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# Extension of Commercial Licenses Expiration Date

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**May 27, 2020**

# Background Information

- Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 49-15-29(2) all commercial licenses expire on April 30 following the date of issuance.
- On April 1, 2020 Governor Reeves issued Executive Order 1466 establishing a Shelter-In-Place order through April 20, 2020 for the State of Mississippi.

- On April 10, 2020, the CMR extended the expiration date of commercial licenses to May 31, 2020, in accordance with
- Miss. Code Ann § 33-15-31(b) which provides in pertinent part:
- . . . All existing laws, ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of the article, . . ., shall be suspended during the period of time and to the extent that such emergency exists.



- The Mississippi shrimp season opens May 28, 2020. Many shrimpers stay on the water for weeks each trip.
- In accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders, the MDMR will begin the process of returning to work on June 1, 2020 and will begin issuing licenses at the Bolton Building on a limited basis beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- In order to afford the commercial fishermen ample opportunity to obtain their commercial licenses with the limited availability starting June 1, 2020, the MDMR is requesting that the license expiration date be extended for an additional thirty (30) days.

# Required Motion

- Motion to extend the expiration date of commercial licenses to June 30, 2020, in order to comply with the continuing mandates of the Executive Orders issued by Governor Reeves pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic.