

By: Representative Moak

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 268

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION
2 27-19-56.15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE
3 OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS IN SUPPORT OF THE MISSISSIPPI
4 VETERANS' MONUMENT; TO PRESCRIBE CERTAIN ADDITIONAL FEES THAT
5 SHALL BE COLLECTED FOR SUCH LICENSE TAGS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE
6 ADDITIONAL FEES SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN A SPECIAL FUND FOR USE BY
7 THE MISSISSIPPI VETERANS' MONUMENT COMMISSION IN PERFORMING ITS
8 DUTIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section
11 27-19-56.15, Mississippi Code of 1972:

12 27-19-56.15. (1) Owners of motor vehicles who are residents
13 of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating
14 to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and upon payment
15 of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and
16 registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
17 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
18 and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in
19 subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive
20 license tag in recognition of their support for the Mississippi
21 Veterans' Monument. The distinctive license tags so issued shall
22 be of such color and design as may be determined finally by the
23 State Tax Commission based upon three (3) recommendations
24 presented to the State Tax Commission by the Mississippi Veterans'
25 Monument Commission, and ranked in order of preference by the
26 Mississippi Veterans' Monument Commission.

27 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
28 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
29 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the

30 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, plus
31 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector as
32 a processing fee, shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission
33 within seven (7) days of the date the application is made. The
34 portion of the additional fee retained by the tax collector shall
35 be deposited into the county general fund. Distinctive license
36 tags issued under this section shall be issued within forty-five
37 (45) days after application is made.

38 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
39 after July 1, 1999, any person applying for a distinctive license
40 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
41 of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for each distinctive license tag
42 applied for under this section which shall be in addition to all
43 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
44 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
45 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
46 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
47 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
48 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
49 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
50 license tag, or if the owner sells or transfers the vehicle he,
51 may surrender the license tag to the local county tax collector
52 and receive a certificate of credit toward the purchase of a tag
53 on another vehicle as otherwise provided by law. Distinctive
54 license tags issued under this section may be transferred by the
55 owner to any other vehicle owned by him upon payment of the
56 regular taxes and fees for a license tag for that vehicle.

57 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
58 State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month,
59 the State Tax Commission shall certify to the State Treasurer the
60 total fees collected under this section from the issuance of
61 distinctive license tags. The State Treasurer shall distribute an
62 amount equal to Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) of the additional fees
63 collected for each such distinctive license tag issued under this
64 section to the credit of a special fund that is created in the
65 State Treasury. Monies in the special fund, upon Legislative
66 appropriation, may be expended by the Mississippi Veterans'

67 Monument Commission for the purpose of performing any of the
68 duties of the commission under Chapter 15 of Title 55, Mississippi
69 Code of 1972.

70 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
71 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
72 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
73 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
74 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
75 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
76 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
77 tag.

78 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
79 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
80 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
81 Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license
82 tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving
83 such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and
84 deposit in the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee
85 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be
86 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular
87 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

88 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
89 and after July 1, 1999.