

By: Representative Middleton

To: Ways and Means

## HOUSE BILL NO. 737

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION 27-19-56.15, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE  
3 TAGS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section  
6 27-19-56.15, Mississippi Code of 1972:

7 27-19-56.15. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a  
8 resident of this state and who is a full-time or part-time  
9 employee of the state or any agency, department, board, commission  
10 or institution thereof, upon payment of the road and bridge  
11 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as  
12 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup  
13 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of  
14 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this  
15 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor  
16 vehicle registered in his name. The distinctive license tags so  
17 issued shall be of such color and design as the State Tax  
18 Commission, with the advice of the State Employee Association of  
19 Mississippi, may prescribe and shall consist of the county name  
20 and such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to  
21 distinguish each license tag.

22 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized  
23 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms  
24 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the  
25 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less  
26 three percent (3%) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,  
27 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission and deposited into

28 the State General Fund within seven (7) days of the date the  
29 application is made. The portion of the additional fee retained  
30 by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county general  
31 fund.

32 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or  
33 after July 1, 1999, any person applying for a distinctive license  
34 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount  
35 of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each distinctive license tag applied  
36 for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other  
37 taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of  
38 time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag  
39 year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the  
40 original application is made for a distinctive license tag under  
41 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal  
42 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license  
43 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license  
44 tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

45 (4) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as  
46 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under  
47 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the  
48 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under  
49 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license  
50 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,  
51 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license  
52 tag.

53 (5) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license  
54 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and  
55 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by  
56 Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license  
57 tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving  
58 such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and  
59 deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee  
60 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be  
61 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular  
62 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

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