

By: Representatives McCoy, Moss

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 866

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.12, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REQUIRE DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES ISSUED
3 TO UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES VETERANS TO INDICATE IN BOLD AND
4 DISTINCTIVE WORDS THE PARTICULAR WAR OR MILITARY CONFLICT IN WHICH
5 THE VETERAN SERVED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 27-19-56.12, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 27-19-56.12. (1) In recognition of the patriotic service
10 rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged veterans
11 who served in the United States Armed Forces in Saudi Arabia or
12 Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield,
13 in Panama during the invasion, in Grenada during the invasion,
14 during the Vietnam Conflict, during the Korean Conflict, during
15 World War II or during World War I, any such person is privileged
16 to obtain one (1) distinctive motor vehicle license plate or tag
17 identifying him as a veteran, and indicating, in bold and
18 distinctive words, the veteran's service in the above enumerated
19 wars or conflicts. The distinctive plates or tags shall be of a
20 color and design designated by the Tax Commission.

21 (2) The distinctive license plates shall be prepared by the
22 Tax Commission and shall be issued through the tax collectors of
23 the counties in the same manner as are other motor vehicle license
24 plates or tags. An additional tag fee of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00)
25 shall be collected by the tax collector for such license plates or
26 tags and shall be forwarded to the Tax Commission which shall
27 deposit such fee to the credit of a fund to be administered by the

28 board overseeing the veterans nursing homes in this state for the
29 benefit of indigent veterans who are residents of such nursing
30 homes.

31 (3) An applicant for such distinctive plates shall present
32 to the issuing official written evidence of the veteran's service.

33 Such evidence shall include a copy of the applicant's DD-214 form
34 or an equivalent document. The distinctive license plates or tags
35 so issued shall be used only upon a personally or jointly owned
36 private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational
37 motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the name, or
38 jointly in the name, of the person making application therefor,
39 and when issued to such person shall be used upon the vehicle for
40 which issued in lieu of the standard license plate or license tag
41 normally issued for such vehicle.

42 (4) The distinctive license plates shall not be transferable
43 between motor vehicle owners; and in the event the owner of a
44 vehicle bearing a distinctive plate shall sell, trade, exchange or
45 otherwise dispose of the vehicle, such plate shall be retained by
46 such owner and returned to the tax collector.

47 (5) The changes in the license tag design and wording
48 required by the amendments to this section by House Bill No. _____,
49 1999 Regular Session, shall be applicable only to license tags
50 issued under this section from and after July 1, 1999; however,
51 any person who, on July 1, 1999, possesses a valid distinctive
52 license tag issued under this section before July 1, 1999, may
53 apply with the county tax collector and may be issued a
54 replacement distinctive license tag under this section without
55 payment of any additional fee. Such replacement license tag shall
56 have the same expiration date as the tag which it replaces.

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