

By: Senator(s) Furniss, Johnson (19th),
Gollott, Hamilton, Harvey, Rayborn, White
(29th)

To: Veterans and Military
Affairs; Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2174

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.12, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REVISE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR OBTAINING DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
3 VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES IDENTIFYING ARMED FORCES VETERANS; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE
5 OF MISSISSIPPI:

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

9 27-19-56.12. In recognition of the patriotic service
10 rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged veterans
11 who served in the United States Armed Forces * * *, any such
12 person is privileged to obtain * * * distinctive motor vehicle
13 license plates or tags identifying him as a veteran. The State
14 Tax Commission, in concurrence with the State Veterans Affairs
15 Board, shall develop * * * decals which shall be affixed to the
16 license plate to indicate branch and period of military service.
17 The distinctive plates or tags shall be of a color and design
18 designated by the Tax Commission in concurrence with the State
19 Veterans Affairs Board.

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

29 homes.

30 An applicant for such distinctive plates shall present to the
31 issuing official written evidence of the veteran's service. Such
32 evidence shall include a copy of the applicant's DD-214 form, a
33 Report of Separation from Military Service, a Military Discharge
34 document, or a written certification of military service from the
35 State Veterans Affairs Board. The distinctive license plates or
36 tags so issued shall be used only upon a personally or jointly
37 owned private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons,
38 recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the
39 name, or jointly in the name, of the person making application
40 therefor, and when issued to such person shall be used upon the
41 vehicle for which issued in lieu of the standard license plate or
42 license tag normally issued for such vehicle.

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

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