

By: Coleman (65th)

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1289

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION
2 27-19-56.15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE
3 OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS TO MEMBERS OR SUPPORTERS OF
4 PANHELLENIC FRATERNITIES OR SORORITIES; TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL
5 FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS; TO PROVIDE
6 FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ADDITIONAL FEE AMONG THE RONALD MCDONALD
7 HOUSE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER, THE
8 MISSISSIPPI FIRE FIGHTER'S MEMORIAL BURN CENTER FUND, THE
9 CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL
10 CENTER, THE MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER OF THE SICKLE CELL ANEMIA
11 FOUNDATION, AND THE COLEMAN, ALEXANDER, POSSNER FOUNDATION; TO
12 PROVIDE THAT THE STATE TAX COMMISSION MAY NOT PREPARE OR ISSUE ANY
13 DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAG OR PLATE AUTHORIZED BY THE LEGISLATURE
14 FROM AND AFTER JULY 1, 2000, UNLESS THE ORGANIZATION OR OTHER
15 ENTITY FOR WHICH THE LEGISLATURE AUTHORIZED THE DISTINCTIVE
16 LICENSE TAG OR PLATE SUBMITS PROOF TO THE TAX COMMISSION THAT A
17 CERTAIN MINIMUM NUMBER OF SUCH LICENSE TAGS OR PLATES WILL BE
18 PURCHASED AND DEPOSITS WITH THE COMMISSION AN AMOUNT NECESSARY TO
19 PURCHASE THAT MINIMUM NUMBER; TO PROVIDE THAT IF THE NUMBER OF
20 DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS OR PLATES FALLS BELOW THE MINIMUM NUMBER
21 IN THE LAST YEAR OF THE SERIES, THE LICENSE TAG OR PLATE SHALL BE
22 DISCONTINUED, BUT A DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAG DECAL MAY BE PREPARED
23 AND SOLD BY THE ORGANIZATION OR ENTITY; TO PROVIDE THAT THE
24 PROCEEDS DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF SUCH DECALS SHALL BE RETAINED BY
25 THE ORGANIZATION OR ENTITY FOR ANY USE DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE
26 ORGANIZATION OR ENTITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

28 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section

29 27-19-56.15, Mississippi Code of 1972:

30 27-19-56.15. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
31 resident of this state and who is a member or supporter of any
32 Panhellenic fraternity or sorority, upon payment of the road and
33 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
34 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
35 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
36 an additional fee in the amount of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00), shall
37 be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor vehicle
38 registered in his name identifying such person as a member or

39 supporter of such organization. The distinctive license tags so
40 issued shall display the Greek letter of the organization and
41 shall be of such color and design as the State Tax Commission may
42 prescribe, and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both,
43 as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

44 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
45 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
46 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
47 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
48 five percent (5%) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
49 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission within seven (7)
50 days of the date the application is made. The portion of the
51 additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited
52 into the county general fund.

53 (3) The distinctive license tag shall be issued for a
54 one-year period. The additional annual fee shall be due and
55 payable at the time of renewal registration.

56 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
57 State Treasury on the day received. At the end of each month, the
58 State Tax Commission shall certify the total fees collected under
59 this section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute such
60 collections as follows:

61 (a) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
62 on the distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section
63 shall be distributed to the Ronald McDonald House at the
64 University of Mississippi Medical Center.

65 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
66 on the distinctive license tags shall be deposited into the
67 Mississippi Fire Fighter's Memorial Burn Center Fund created
68 pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

69 (c) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
70 on the distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section
71 shall be distributed to the Children's Hospital at the University
72 of Mississippi Medical Center.

73 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
74 on the distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section
75 shall be distributed to the Mississippi Chapter of the Sickle Cell

76 Anemia Foundation.

77 (e) The remainder of each such additional fee shall be
78 distributed to the Coleman, Alexander, Possner Foundation.

79 SECTION 2. (1) For any distinctive license tag or plate
80 authorized by the Legislature from and after July 1, 2000, the
81 requirements of this section must be met before the State Tax
82 Commission may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate.
83 The organization or other entity for which the Legislature
84 authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof
85 satisfactory to the State Tax Commission that at least one hundred
86 (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must
87 deposit with the commission an amount necessary to purchase one
88 hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The organization or
89 other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive
90 license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this
91 subsection (1) within two (2) years after the effective date of
92 the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit
93 the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

94 (2) If the organization or other entity for which the
95 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate meets
96 the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the State Tax
97 Commission shall prepare and issue the distinctive license tag or
98 plate. If the State Tax Commission prepares and issues a
99 distinctive license tag or plate for the organization or other
100 entity, the commission shall review the number of such license
101 tags or plates issued during the period for the license tag or
102 plate series. If the number of distinctive license tags or plates
103 falls below one hundred (100) in the last year of the series, the
104 license tag or plate shall be discontinued at the end of the
105 period for the series.

106 (3) If a distinctive license tag or plate is discontinued
107 under subsection (2) of this section, the organization or other
108 entity for which the license tag or plate was discontinued may

109 prepare a distinctive license tag or plate decal. The distinctive
110 license tag or plate decal shall be of such size, color and design
111 as may be agreed upon by the organization or other entity and the
112 State Tax Commission. However, the State Tax Commission shall
113 have final approval of the size, color and design of the decal.
114 The distinctive license tag or plate decals shall be prepared and
115 sold by the organization or other entity, and the proceeds derived
116 from the sale of such decals shall be retained by the organization
117 or other entity for any use deemed appropriate by the organization
118 or other entity.

119 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from
120 and after July 1, 2000.