

By: Representatives Janus, Creel, Zuber

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 812

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION 27-19-56.32, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE
3 TAGS IN COMMEMORATION OF KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS; TO PROVIDE THAT A
4 PORTION OF THE FEES COLLECTED FOR SUCH DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS
5 SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF MISSISSIPPI,
6 THE MISSISSIPPI FIRE FIGHTER'S MEMORIAL BURN CENTER FUND AND THE
7 STATE HIGHWAY FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
10 27-19-56.32, Mississippi Code of 1972:

11 27-19-56.32. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
12 member of Knights of Columbus, upon payment of the road and bridge
13 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
14 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
15 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
16 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
17 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
18 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a member
19 of Knights of Columbus. The distinctive license tags so issued
20 shall be of such color and design as the State Tax Commission,
21 with the advice of Knights of Columbus, may prescribe and shall
22 consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary
23 to distinguish each license tag.

24 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
25 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
26 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
27 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
28 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
29 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission within seven (7)



30 days of the date the application is made. The portion of the
31 additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited
32 into the county general fund.

33 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
34 after July 1, 2002, any person applying for a distinctive license
35 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
36 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
37 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
38 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
39 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
40 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
41 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
42 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
43 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
44 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
45 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
46 collector.

47 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
48 State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month,
49 the State Tax Commission shall certify to the State Treasurer the
50 total fees collected under this section from the issuance of the
51 distinctive license tags issued under this section. The State
52 Treasurer shall distribute such collections as follows:

53 (a) Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of each additional fee
54 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
55 section shall be distributed to Knights of Columbus of
56 Mississippi.

57 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
58 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
59 be deposited into the Mississippi Fire Fighter's Memorial Burn
60 Center Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

61 (c) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
62 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this



63 section shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund
64 to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
65 reconstruction of highways.

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

74 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
75 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
76 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
77 Section 27-19-37.

78 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
79 and after July 1, 2002.

