

By: Senator(s) Farris

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2605

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
2 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS FOR ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES
3 ARMED FORCES; TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH TAGS;
4 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is serving
7 as an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces, upon
8 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
9 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
10 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
11 and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in
12 subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive
13 license tag for each motor vehicle registered in his name
14 identifying such person as an active duty member of the United
15 States Armed Forces. The distinctive license tags so issued shall
16 be of such color and design as designated by the State Tax
17 Commission, shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as
18 may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

19 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
20 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
21 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for such
22 distinctive license tags shall present to the issuing official
23 proof that they are serving as an active duty member of the United
24 States Armed Forces. The application and the additional fee
25 imposed under subsection (3) of this section shall be remitted to
26 the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis as prescribed by the
27 commission.



28 (3) Any person applying for a distinctive license tag under
29 this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty
30 Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for
31 under this section which shall be in addition to all other taxes
32 and fees. The tag fee shall be collected by the tax collector and
33 shall be forwarded to the State Tax Commission which shall deposit
34 such fee to the credit of a fund to be administered by the board
35 overseeing the veterans' nursing homes in this state for the
36 benefit of indigent veterans who are residents of such nursing
37 homes. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time to
38 run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag year.
39 The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original
40 application is made for a distinctive license tag under this
41 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, or if the owner retires or resigns from or otherwise vacates
45 service in the United States Armed Forces, he must surrender it to
46 the local county tax collector.

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

55 (5) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
56 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
57 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
58 Section 27-19-37, Mississippi Code of 1972. The fee for a
59 replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
60 The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall



61 be entitled to retain and deposit into the county general fund
62 five percent (5%) of the fee for such replacement license tag and
63 the remainder shall be distributed in the same manner as funds
64 from the sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under
65 this section.

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

