

By: Senator(s) Furniss

To: Finance

## SENATE BILL NO. 2686

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.12, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADDITIONAL FEE PAID FOR A DISTINCTIVE  
3 MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAG FOR HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES MUST BE PAID ANNUALLY UPON RENEWAL  
5 REGISTRATION FOR AS LONG AS THE OWNER RETAINS SUCH TAG; AND FOR  
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

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

21 The distinctive license plates shall be prepared by the Tax  
22 Commission and shall be issued through the tax collectors of the  
23 counties in the same manner as are other motor vehicle license  
24 plates or tags. An additional annual tag fee of Thirty Dollars  
25 (\$30.00) shall be collected by the tax collector for such license  
26 plates or tags and shall be remitted to the Tax Commission on a  
27 monthly basis as prescribed by the commission. The additional fee  
28 is due and payable at the time the original application is made  
29 for a distinctive tag under this section and thereafter annually



30 at the time of renewal registration as long as the owner retains  
31 the distinctive license tag. The State Tax Commission shall  
32 deposit such fee to the credit of a fund to be administered by the  
33 board overseeing the veterans nursing homes in this state for the  
34 benefit of indigent veterans who are residents of such nursing  
35 homes.

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

49 The distinctive license plates shall not be transferable  
50 between motor vehicle owners; and in the event the owner of a  
51 vehicle bearing a distinctive plate shall sell, trade, exchange or  
52 otherwise dispose of the vehicle, such plate shall be retained by  
53 such owner and returned to the tax collector.

54 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
55 and after its passage.

