

By: Senator(s) Williamson

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 3005

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
2 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS FOR PERSONS SERVING AS DULY ELECTED
3 CONSTABLES; 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 a duly elected constable, upon payment of the road and bridge
8 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
9 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
10 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
11 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
12 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor
13 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
14 constable. The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of
15 such color and design as designated by the State Tax Commission,
16 shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be
17 necessary to distinguish each license tag; provided, however, that
18 such tag shall have the word "constable" on it and shall display
19 the name of the county in which the applicant serves as constable.

20 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
21 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
22 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for such
23 distinctive license tags shall present to the issuing official
24 proof that they are serving as a constable in the county. The
25 application and the additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of
26 this section, less three percent (3%) thereof to be retained by
27 the tax collector, shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission
28 on a monthly basis as prescribed by the commission. The portion



29 of the additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be
30 deposited into the county general fund.

31 (3) Any person applying for a distinctive license tag under
32 this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of
33 Thirty-five Dollars (\$35.00) for each distinctive license tag
34 applied for under this section which shall be in addition to all
35 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
36 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
37 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
38 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
39 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
40 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
41 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
42 license tag, or if the owner retires or resigns from or otherwise
43 vacates the office of constable, he must surrender it to the local
44 county tax collector.

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

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

54 (b) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
55 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
56 section shall be deposited into the State Highway Fund to be
57 expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
58 reconstruction of highways.

59 (c) The remainder shall be deposited into the State
60 General Fund.



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

69 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
70 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
71 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
72 Section 27-19-37, Mississippi Code of 1972. The fee for a
73 replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
74 The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall
75 be entitled to retain and deposit into the county general fund
76 five percent (5%) of the fee for such replacement license tag and
77 the remainder shall be distributed in the same manner as funds
78 from the sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under
79 this section.

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

