

By: Representatives Rogers, Barbour, Compretta, Formby, Hudson, Jennings, Markham, Mitchell, Moore (60th), Smith (59th), Warren, Weathersby

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 966

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS  
2 IN SUPPORT OF ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE; TO PROVIDE  
3 FOR THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH  
4 LICENSE TAGS; TO PROVIDE FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ADDITIONAL FEES  
5 COLLECTED; TO REPEAL SECTIONS 27-19-56.64, 27-19-56.65 AND  
6 27-19-56.66, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH AUTHORIZE THE  
7 ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS IN SUPPORT OF  
8 THE PETAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND  
9 THE SIMPSON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT; TO PROVIDE THAT ANY MONIES IN  
10 THE SPECIAL FUNDS CREATED UNDER THESE REPEALED SECTIONS SHALL BE  
11 TRANSFERRED TO THE STATE TREASURY AND PAID BY THE STATE TREASURER  
12 TO THE SCHOOL BOARDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN SUPPORT OF  
13 WHICH DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS ARE ISSUED UNDER THIS ACT; AND FOR  
14 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a  
17 resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge  
18 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as  
19 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup  
20 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of  
21 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this  
22 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor  
23 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a  
24 supporter of any public school district in the state. The  
25 distinctive license tags so issued shall display the name of the  
26 school district and shall be of such color and design as the State  
27 Tax Commission may prescribe and shall consist of such letters or  
28 numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license  
29 tag.

30 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized  
31 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms  
32 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the  
33 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less



34 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,  
35 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis  
36 as prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional  
37 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the  
38 county general fund.

39 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or  
40 after July 1, 2003, any person applying for a distinctive license  
41 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount  
42 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag  
43 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all  
44 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a  
45 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established  
46 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the  
47 time the original application is made for a distinctive license  
48 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of  
49 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive  
50 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive  
51 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax  
52 collector.

53 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the  
54 State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month,  
55 the State Tax Commission shall certify to the State Treasurer the  
56 total fees collected under this section from the issuance of the  
57 distinctive license tags issued under this section. The State  
58 Treasurer shall distribute such collections as follows:

59 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee  
60 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
61 section shall be paid to the school board of the public school  
62 district in support of which the tag is issued, and such monies  
63 when so received, may be expended, as authorized and directed by  
64 the school board, for classroom supplies, instructional materials  
65 and equipment, including computers and computer software and other  
66 classroom needs of the public schools of the district.



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

71 (c) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee  
72 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
73 section shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund  
74 to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or  
75 reconstruction of highways.

76 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected  
77 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall  
78 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section  
79 27-19-44.2.

80 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as  
81 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under  
82 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the  
83 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under  
84 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license  
85 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,  
86 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license  
87 tag.

88 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license  
89 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and  
90 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by  
91 Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license  
92 tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving  
93 such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and  
94 deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee  
95 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be  
96 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular  
97 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

98 (7) The provisions of this section shall not be applicable  
99 to those school districts for which distinctive license tags are



100 authorized to be issued under Sections 27-19-56.64, 27-19-56.65 or  
101 27-19-56.66.

102         **SECTION 2.** Sections 27-19-56.64, 27-19-56.65 and  
103 27-19-56.66, Mississippi Code of 1972, which authorize the  
104 issuance of distinctive motor vehicle license tags in support of  
105 the Petal School District, the Desoto County School District and  
106 the Simpson County School District, are repealed.

107         **SECTION 3.** Any monies in the special funds created under  
108 subsection (7) of Section 27-19-56.64, subsection (7) of Section  
109 27-19-56.65 and subsection (7) of Section 27-19-56.66, shall be  
110 transferred to the State Treasury and, in accordance with the  
111 provisions of subsection (4)(a) of Section 1 of House Bill No.  
112 \_\_\_\_, 2003 Regular Session, shall be paid by the State Treasurer to  
113 the school boards of the public school districts in support of  
114 which distinctive license tags are issued under Section 1 of House  
115 Bill No. \_\_\_\_, 2003 Regular Session.

116         **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
117 and after July 1, 2003.

