

By: Representative Reynolds

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 967

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 29-19-56.12, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT THE ADDITIONAL FEE FOR ISSUANCE OF A
3 DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAG TO HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERANS WHO
4 SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED SERVICES SHALL BE DUE ONLY UPON
5 INITIAL APPLICATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

9 27-19-56.12. In recognition of the patriotic service
10 rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged veterans
11 who served in the United States Armed Forces, any such person is
12 privileged to obtain distinctive motor vehicle license plates or
13 tags for each motor vehicle registered in his name identifying his
14 status as a veteran. The State Tax Commission, with concurrence
15 by the State Veterans Affairs Board, shall develop decals to be
16 affixed to the license tag indicating branch and period of
17 military service. The distinctive plates or tags shall be of a
18 color and design designated by the Tax Commission with concurrence
19 by the State Veterans Affairs Board.

20 The distinctive license plates shall be prepared by the Tax
21 Commission and shall be issued through the tax collectors of the
22 counties in the same manner as are other motor vehicle license
23 plates or tags. An additional one-time tag fee of Thirty Dollars
24 (\$30.00) shall be collected by the tax collector for such license
25 plates or tags and shall be remitted to the Tax Commission on a
26 monthly basis as prescribed by the commission. * * * The State
27 Tax Commission shall deposit such fee to the credit of a fund to
28 be administered by the board overseeing the veterans nursing homes



29 in this state for the benefit of indigent veterans who are
30 residents of such nursing homes.

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

44 The distinctive license plates shall not be transferable
45 between motor vehicle owners; and in the event the owner of a
46 vehicle bearing a distinctive plate shall sell, trade, exchange or
47 otherwise dispose of the vehicle, such plate shall be retained by
48 such owner and returned to the tax collector.

49 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
50 and after July 1, 2003.

