

By: Representative Simpson

To: Insurance

HOUSE BILL NO. 1231

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION TO BE CODIFIED AS SECTION
 2 63-15-8, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE PROOF OF MOTOR
 3 VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE OR OTHER FORM OF FINANCIAL
 4 RESPONSIBILITY AS REQUIRED BY THIS CHAPTER BEFORE RECEIVING SAFETY
 5 INSPECTION STICKERS AND MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS; TO AMEND
 6 SECTION 63-13-7, MISSISSIPPI code OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE
 7 RECORDING OF CERTAIN INFORMATION ON SAFETY INSPECTION STICKERS; TO
 8 AMEND SECTION 27-51-17, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REQUIRE THE
 9 RECORDING OF CERTAIN INFORMATION ON TAG RECEIPTS; AND FOR RELATED
 10 PURPOSES.

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

12 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section

13 63-15-8, Mississippi Code of 1972:

14 63-15-8. (1) Every owner of a motor vehicle in this state
 15 shall furnish proof of motor vehicle liability insurance or other
 16 form of financial responsibility as required by this chapter
 17 before such owner may receive a safety inspection sticker or a
 18 license tag for a motor vehicle or renew a safety inspection
 19 sticker or a license tag. Proof of motor vehicle liability
 20 insurance or other form of financial responsibility as required by
 21 this chapter shall be made by signing a certificate on a form
 22 prescribed by the Commissioner of Insurance stating that the motor
 23 vehicle owner is insured or otherwise financially responsible for
 24 at least the minimum requirements as provided by this chapter and
 25 in any form as provided by this chapter. Such certificate shall
 26 contain a space for the motor vehicle owner to fill in the
 27 insurance policy number and expiration date. Such certificate
 28 shall state in bold print that anyone who shall affirmatively sign
 29 such certificate who is not insured or otherwise financially
 30 responsible for at least the minimum requirements as provided by
 31 this chapter shall be subject to a fine of Five Hundred Dollars



32 (\$500.00) and imprisonment for a period not exceeding one (1) year
33 or both such fine and imprisonment. Such certificate shall be
34 furnished to each motor vehicle owner by the tax collector of the
35 county where the motor vehicle is registered. The tax collector
36 shall mail such certificate and a copy of the certificate with a
37 motor vehicle tag renewal notice to the motor vehicle owner who
38 shall mail the original certificate back to the tax collector
39 before a tag may be renewed. The tax collectors shall also make
40 such certificates available at the tax collectors' offices during
41 regular business hours. The tax collector shall write the
42 insurance policy number and expiration date on the tag receipt,
43 shall forward a copy of the certificate to the Department of
44 Public Safety and shall keep the original certificate in the tax
45 collector's records. The motor vehicle owner must present his
46 copy of the certificate in order to obtain a safety inspection
47 sticker as provided in Section 63-13-7.

48 (2) Any person who presents or causes to be presented to the
49 Department of Public Safety or to any court of this state false
50 evidence of motor vehicle liability insurance or other form of
51 financial responsibility as required by this chapter, upon
52 conviction, shall be guilty of perjury and shall be fined Five
53 Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and shall be subject to imprisonment for
54 a period not exceeding one (1) year or both such fine and
55 imprisonment. This fine and imprisonment shall be waived if the
56 offender chooses to purchase, and provides proof of such purchase
57 by the court date, motor vehicle liability insurance for a minimum
58 of six (6) months' coverage in at least the minimum amounts
59 required under paragraph (j) of Section 63-15-3. Any person
60 convicted of filing false proof of motor vehicle liability
61 insurance or other form of financial responsibility as required by
62 this chapter shall surrender to the department his driver's
63 license, license plates and registration of the motor vehicle for
64 which false proof was presented and the procedure for the



65 suspension of licenses provided in Section 63-15-11 relating to
66 accidents shall be followed. Such driver's license, license
67 plates and registration shall be reinstated upon payment of any
68 fines and reinstatement fees, serving of a sentence if applicable,
69 upon presentation of proof of financial responsibility for a
70 period of one (1) year or upon presentation of proof of purchase
71 of minimum motor vehicle liability insurance in accordance with
72 the provisions of this subsection. The district attorney of the
73 jurisdiction where any false evidence is filed shall prosecute any
74 violations of this section. Any person convicted under this
75 section shall be assessed with all costs of prosecution and all
76 court costs.

77 (3) All insurance carriers are required to notify the
78 appropriate tax collector and sheriff and the Department of Public
79 Safety when there is a lapse of the liability coverage that was
80 purchased in accordance with this section. These notifications
81 shall be made on a daily basis. Upon such notification, the
82 sheriff, or his designee of an appropriate law enforcement agency,
83 may confiscate the motor vehicle license tag, which tag may be
84 returned to the owner in the manner provided in this section.

85 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-13-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
86 amended as follows:

87 63-13-7. (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this
88 section, the Commissioner of Public Safety shall, not more than
89 once each year, require that every motor vehicle, trailer,
90 semitrailer and pole trailer registered in this state be inspected
91 and that an official certificate of inspection and approval be
92 obtained for each such vehicle. Each such vehicle must display at
93 all times a certificate of inspection and approval duly issued for
94 such vehicle upon the lower left-hand corner of the windshield
95 thereof or upon such vehicle in such position as to be visible
96 from the outside. In order to receive such certificate of
97 inspection, the motor vehicle owner must present to the inspector



98 a copy of the certificate of proof of motor vehicle liability
99 insurance as required in House Bill No. , 2003 Regular Session.
100 The inspector shall record the motor vehicle liability insurance
101 policy number and expiration date on the inspection certificate.

102 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section,
103 every motor vehicle registered in any other state and operated
104 over the highways of this state shall be inspected and shall
105 display an inspection certificate which shall be different either
106 in color or design from the inspection certificates issued for use
107 on state registered vehicles.

108 However, the Commissioner of Public Safety may authorize the
109 acceptance in this state of a certificate of inspection and
110 approval issued under the authority of a qualified agency or
111 department of another state, provided that every municipality,
112 county and state office in such other state accepts under a
113 mutually acceptable reciprocal agreement, Mississippi's
114 certificate of inspection and approval. The commissioner shall
115 except from the provisions of this chapter all passenger buses and
116 other vehicles certified by the Interstate Commerce Commission and
117 subject to its rules and regulations and its periodical
118 inspections.

119 (3) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall require all
120 school buses in the State of Mississippi to be inspected during
121 the months of July or August each year and may provide such
122 special certificate of inspection and approval as he may deem
123 necessary.

124 (4) A motor vehicle manufactured or having a model year
125 earlier than 1961 shall not be required to be inspected or to
126 display a certificate of inspection under the provisions of this
127 chapter.

128 **SECTION 3.** Section 27-51-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
129 amended as follows:



130 27-51-17. The tax collector of each county shall be supplied
131 with a sufficient number of tax receipts to be used by him in the
132 collection of both the privilege tax and the ad valorem tax on all
133 taxable motor vehicles in his county. The tax receipt for these
134 purposes shall be a combination receipt and shall carry a number
135 which shall be the same number as that of the road and bridge
136 privilege tax receipt and tag number for each such motor vehicle.
137 Under no circumstances shall one (1) tax receipt be used for
138 receipting the ad valorem taxes on more than one (1) motor
139 vehicle.

140 There shall also be ample provisions made on these tax
141 receipt forms for receipting ad valorem taxes collected for any
142 municipality or municipal separate school district in the county,
143 in case the county tax collector is legally directed as
144 hereinafter provided to collect such taxes at the same time such
145 tax collections are made for the county. This combination tax
146 receipt form shall be prescribed by the Tax Commission in
147 cooperation with the administrator of the road and bridge
148 privilege tax law, and the administrator of the road and bridge
149 privilege tax law shall supply them.

150 The county tax collector of each county shall also secure an
151 ample supply of ad valorem tax receipts to be used by him in
152 collecting the ad valorem taxes on all motor vehicles in his
153 county for which the road and bridge privilege tax license will be
154 issued by the administrator of the road and bridge privilege tax
155 law. Ample provisions shall also be made on these forms for
156 receipting any municipal and municipal separate school district ad
157 valorem taxes collected, in case the county tax collector is
158 legally directed to collect such taxes. All such ad valorem tax
159 receipt forms for each county, for the collection of ad valorem
160 taxes only, shall be numbered in consecutive order beginning with
161 the number "one"; they shall be made up in triplicate, the exact
162 form of which shall be prescribed by the state tax commission, and



163 they shall be supplied by the county board of supervisors. A
164 separate receipt shall be issued for each motor vehicle on which
165 ad valorem taxes are paid.

166 Ample provisions shall also be made on these forms for the
167 tax collector to indicate motor vehicle liability insurance policy
168 numbers and expiration dates in accordance with House Bill No.
169 , 2003 Regular Session.

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

