

By: Senator(s) Burton

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2655

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.56, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO ALLOW WIVES AND UNMARRIED DAUGHTERS OF MEMBERS OF THE
3 PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI, FREE AND ACCEPTED ANCIENT
4 YORKRITE MASONS TO PURCHASE DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS THAT DISPLAY
5 THE PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE MASON EMBLEM; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.56, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
9 amended as follows:

10 27-19-56.56. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
11 member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Free and
12 Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons, or the wife or unmarried
13 daughter of a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of
14 Mississippi, Free and Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons, upon
15 complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and
16 licensing of motor vehicles, and upon payment of the road and
17 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
18 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
19 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
20 an additional annual fee in the amount provided in subsection (3)
21 of this section, shall be entitled to a special license tag which
22 displays the Prince Hall Grand Lodge Mason emblem and displays the
23 letters "F&AAYM." The tags shall be of such color and design as
24 the State Tax Commission shall prescribe subject to the approval
25 of the Mississippi License Tag Commission.

26 (2) Application for the special license tags authorized by
27 this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
28 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for such
29 distinctive license tags shall present to the issuing official

30 documentation from the Free and Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons,
31 Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mississippi as prescribed by the State
32 Tax Commission showing their membership in the Free and Accepted
33 Ancient Yorkrite Masons, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mississippi,
34 or documentation as prescribed by the State Tax Commission showing
35 that they are the wife or unmarried daughter of a member of the
36 Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Free and Accepted Ancient
37 Yorkrite Masons. The application and the additional fee imposed
38 under subsection (3) of this section, less Two Dollars (\$2.00)
39 thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be remitted to
40 the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis as prescribed by the
41 commission. The portion of the additional fee retained by the tax
42 collector shall be deposited into the county general fund.

43 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
44 after July 1, 2002, any person applying for a distinctive license
45 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
46 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
47 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
48 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
49 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
50 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
51 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
52 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
53 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
54 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
55 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
56 collector.

57 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
58 State Treasury on the day received. At the end of each month, the
59 State Tax Commission shall certify the total fees collected under
60 this section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute such
61 collections as follows:

62 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
63 collected on special license tags shall be deposited in a special
64 fund hereby created in the State Treasury to the credit of the
65 Free and Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons, Prince Hall Grand Lodge
66 of Mississippi. The funds shall be available for expenditure at
67 the discretion of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

68 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
69 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
70 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
71 27-19-44.2.

72 (c) The remainder of each such additional fee shall be
73 deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be expended
74 solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or reconstruction
75 of highways.

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

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

94 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
95 and after July 1, 2004.