

By: Senator(s) Dawkins

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2086

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
3 LICENSE TAG FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SIERRA CLUB; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 27-19-56.23. (1) Beginning with any registration year
9 commencing on or after July 1, 2005, any owner of a motor vehicle
10 who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and
11 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
12 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
13 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
14 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
15 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor
16 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
17 supporter of the Mississippi Sierra Club. The distinctive license
18 tags so issued shall be of such color and design as the State Tax
19 Commission, with the advice of the Mississippi Sierra Club, may
20 prescribe and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both,
21 as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

22 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
23 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
24 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
25 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
26 Two Dollars (\$2.00) to be retained by the tax collector, shall be
27 remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis as
28 prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional fee

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

31 (3) * * * Any person applying for a distinctive license tag
32 under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of
33 Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied
34 for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other
35 taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of
36 time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag
37 year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the
38 original application is made for a distinctive license tag under
39 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
40 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
41 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
42 tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

43 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
44 State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month,
45 the State Tax Commission shall certify the total fees collected
46 under this section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute
47 such collections as follows:

48 (a) Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of each additional fee
49 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
50 section shall be distributed to the Mississippi Sierra Club.

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

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

60 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
61 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under

62 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
63 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
64 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
65 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
66 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
67 tag.

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

78 (7) In order for a distinctive license tag to be issued
79 under this section, the provisions of Section 27-19-44(2) must be
80 satisfied prior to July 1, 2008.

81 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
82 and after July 1, 2005.