

By: Representative Snowden

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1084

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
2 LICENSE TAGS TO RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; TO PRESCRIBE AN
3 ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH LICENSE TAGS; TO PROVIDE
4 FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF MONIES DERIVED FROM THE ADDITIONAL FEE;;
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle, who is a
8 resident of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws
9 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and upon
10 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
11 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
12 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
13 and upon payment of an additional annual fee in the amount
14 provided in subsection (3) of this section, and who is a person
15 who has retired as a career law enforcement officer from the
16 service of any law enforcement agency of the United States or of
17 any State or Territory, shall be issued a special license tag for
18 each motor vehicle registered in his name identifying such person
19 as a Retired Law Enforcement Officer. The color and design of the
20 distinctive license tags so issued shall be determined by the
21 State Tax Commission based upon the advice and recommendations of
22 the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Association. The
23 distinctive license tags shall consist of such letters or numbers,
24 or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each tag.

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

29 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
30 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis
31 as prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional
32 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the
33 county general fund.

34 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
35 after July 1, 2006, any person applying for a distinctive license
36 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
37 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
38 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
39 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
40 period of time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established
41 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
42 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
43 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
44 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
45 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
46 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
47 collector.

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

54 (a) Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of each additional fee
55 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
56 section shall be disbursed to the Mississippi Law Enforcement
57 Officers Association.

58 (b) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
59 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
60 section shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund

61 to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
62 reconstruction of highways.

63 (c) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
64 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
65 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
66 27-19-44.2.

67 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
68 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
69 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
70 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
71 this section, which will expire the same month and year as the
72 regular license tag.

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

84 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
85 and after July 1, 2006.