

By: Senator(s) Doxey

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2023

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE  
3 LICENSE TAGS THAT DISPLAY THE EMBLEM OF A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE  
4 UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN ANOTHER STATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 27-19-56.15. (1) (a) Beginning with any registration year  
9 commencing on or after July 1, 2006, any owner of a motor vehicle  
10 who is a resident of this state, upon complying with the motor  
11 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor  
12 vehicles, and upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes,  
13 ad valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law for  
14 private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other  
15 noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional  
16 annual fee in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), shall be  
17 issued a distinctive license tag that displays the emblem of any  
18 public or private university of his choice located in another  
19 state.

20 (b) The design of the emblems for the distinctive  
21 license tags authorized under this subsection shall be determined  
22 by agreement between the State Tax Commission and the governing  
23 authorities of public or private universities in the states where  
24 the universities are located. Such other design characteristics  
25 and information to be contained on such distinctive license tags  
26 shall be determined by the State Tax Commission.

27 (c) Application for the distinctive license tag  
28 authorized under this subsection shall be made to the county tax

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

35 (d) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees  
36 that it receives under this subsection into the State Treasury on  
37 the day received. At the end of each month, the State Tax  
38 Commission shall certify the total fees collected under this  
39 section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute such  
40 collections as follows:

41 (i) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of the additional  
42 fees collected from each distinctive license tag issued under this  
43 subsection shall be distributed to the World War II Veterans  
44 Memorial in Washington, D.C. However, when the amounts  
45 distributed to the World War II Veterans Memorial reaches an  
46 aggregate amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00),  
47 then Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of such additional fees shall be  
48 deposited into the State General Fund.

49 (ii) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee  
50 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
51 section shall be deposited into the Mississippi \* \* \* Burn Care  
52 Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

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

58 (iv) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee  
59 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
60 section shall be deposited to the credit of the special fund  
61 created in Section 27-19-44.2.

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

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

80           (4) In order for a distinctive license tag for a university  
81 to be issued pursuant to this section, the provisions of Section  
82 27-19-44(2) must be satisfied for such university license tag  
83 prior to July 1, 2009.

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