

By: Senator(s) Doxey

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2139

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.37, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO PROVIDE THAT A PORTION OF THE FEE FOR A DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
3 VEHICLE LICENSE TAG IDENTIFYING A PERSON AS A CONSTABLE SHALL BE
4 DISTRIBUTED TO THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTABLES ASSOCIATION; AND FOR
5 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.37, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 27-19-56.37. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a duly
10 elected constable, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege
11 taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law
12 for private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other
13 noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional
14 fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section,
15 shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor vehicle
16 registered in his name identifying the person as a constable. The
17 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
18 design as the State Tax Commission may prescribe and shall consist
19 of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
20 distinguish each license tag.

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

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

30 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
31 after July 1, 2002, any person applying for a distinctive license
32 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
33 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
34 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
35 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
36 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
37 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
38 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
39 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
40 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
41 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
42 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
43 collector.

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

50 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
51 collected on distinctive license tags issued under this section
52 shall be distributed to the Mississippi Constables Association.

53 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
54 on distinctive license tags issued under this section shall be
55 deposited into the Mississippi * * * Burn Care Fund created under
56 Section 7-9-70.

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

60 expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
61 reconstruction of highways.

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

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

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

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