

By: Representatives Formby, Bell (21st),
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To: Revenue and Expenditure
General Bills

HOUSE BILL NO. 694

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.72, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REVISE THE DISTRIBUTION OF FEES COLLECTED FROM THE
3 ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO MEMBERS OF
4 THE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.72, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 27-19-56.72. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle, who is a
9 member of the Mississippi Association of Realtors, upon complying
10 with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing
11 of motor vehicles, and upon payment of the road and bridge
12 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
13 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
14 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
15 an additional annual fee in the amount provided in subsection (3),
16 shall be issued a special license tag which displays the blue and
17 gold REALTOR trademark logo on the left side of the license tag.
18 The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of a color and
19 design as the Department of Revenue, with the advice of the



20 Mississippi Association of Realtors, may prescribe, and shall
21 consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary
22 to distinguish each license tag.

23 (2) Application for the special license tag shall be made to
24 the county tax collector on forms prescribed by the Department of
25 Revenue. Proof of membership in the Mississippi Association of
26 Realtors shall be presented to the county tax collector at the
27 time of the application. An applicant's personal business card on
28 which the REALTOR trademark logo is also printed shall be accepted
29 as proof of membership in the Mississippi Association of Realtors.
30 The application and the additional fee, less Two Dollars (\$2.00)
31 thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be remitted to
32 the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis as prescribed by the
33 department. The portion of the additional fee retained by the tax
34 collector shall be deposited into the county general fund.

35 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
36 after July 1, 2003, any person applying for a distinctive tag
37 under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of
38 Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied
39 for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other
40 taxes and fees. The additional fee shall be for a period of time
41 to run concurrently with the vehicle's established license tag
42 year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the
43 original application is made for distinctive license tags under
44 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal



45 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
46 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
47 tag or is no longer affiliated with the Mississippi Association of
48 Realtors, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

49 (4) The Department of Revenue shall deposit all fees into
50 the State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each
51 month, the Department of Revenue shall certify the total fees
52 collected under this section to the State Treasurer who shall
53 distribute such collections as follows:

54 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph (a),
55 Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on
56 special license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be
57 distributed to Mississippi Association of Habitat for Humanity
58 Affiliates, Inc., for use in funding affordable housing projects
59 in Mississippi. However, from and after July 1, 2017, Twenty-four
60 Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on such special
61 license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be distributed
62 to the Mississippi REALTOR® Disaster Relief Fund.

63 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
64 on special license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be
65 deposited into the Mississippi Burn Care Fund created pursuant to
66 Section 7-9-70.

67 (c) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
68 collected on special tags issued pursuant to this section shall be
69 deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be expended



70 only for the repair, maintenance, construction or reconstruction
71 of highways.

72 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
73 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
74 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
75 27-19-44.2.

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 license tag.

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

93 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
94 and after July 1, 2017.

