

By: Representatives Wilkes, Bounds, Boyd, Chism, Clark, Eure, Foster, Gibbs (36th), Huddleston, Ladner, Mangold, McGee, Oliver, Rogers (14th), Sanford, Staples, Tullos, White, Willis

To: Transportation

HOUSE BILL NO. 796

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 63-1-35 AND 45-35-3, MISSISSIPPI  
2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO  
3 PROVIDE ANY PERSON HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM THE UNITED STATES  
4 ARMED FORCES, INCLUDING RESERVES COMPONENTS, WITH THE "VET"  
5 DESIGNATION ON HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD; AND  
6 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
9 amended as follows:

10 63-1-35. (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall  
11 prescribe the form of license issued pursuant to this article  
12 which shall, among other features, include a driver's license  
13 number assigned by the Department of Public Safety. A licensee  
14 shall list his social security number with the department which  
15 shall cross reference the social security number with the driver's  
16 license number for purposes of identification. Additionally, each  
17 license shall bear a full-face color photograph of the licensee in  
18 such form that the license and the photograph cannot be separated.  
19 The photograph shall be taken so that one (1) exposure will  
20 photograph the applicant and the application simultaneously on the



21 same film. The department shall use a process in the issuance of  
22 a license with a color photograph that shall prevent as nearly as  
23 possible any alteration, counterfeiting, duplication,  
24 reproduction, forging or modification of the license or the  
25 superimposition of a photograph without ready detection. The  
26 photograph shall be replaced by the department at the time of  
27 renewal. Drivers' licenses, including photographs appearing  
28 thereon, may be renewed by electronic means according to rules and  
29 regulations promulgated by the commissioner in conformity to  
30 Section 27-104-33.

31 (2) The commissioner shall prescribe the form of license  
32 issued pursuant to this article to licensees who are not United  
33 States citizens and who do not possess a social security number  
34 issued by the United States government. The license of such  
35 persons shall include a number and/or other identifying features.

36 (3) Any new, renewal or duplicate driver's license,  
37 temporary driving permit, intermediate license or commercial  
38 driver's license issued to a person required to register as a sex  
39 offender pursuant to Section 45-33-25 shall bear a designation  
40 identifying the licensee or permittee as a sex offender.

41 (4) The commissioner is authorized to provide the new,  
42 renewal or duplicate driver's license, temporary driving permit,  
43 intermediate license or commercial driver's license to any  
44 honorably discharged veteran as defined in Title 38 of the United  
45 States Code or any person honorably discharged from the United



46 States Armed Forces, including reserve components, and such  
47 license or permit shall exhibit the letters "Vet" or any other  
48 mark identifying the person as a veteran or person honorably  
49 discharged from the United States Armed Forces, including reserve  
50 components. The \* \* \* person requesting the "Vet" designation  
51 shall present his DD-214 or equivalent document that includes a  
52 notation from the State Veterans Affairs Board or Adjutant General  
53 that the applicant is a veteran or was honorably discharged from  
54 the United States Armed Forces, including reserve components.

55 **SECTION 2.** Section 45-35-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
56 amended as follows:

57 45-35-3. (1) Any person six (6) years of age or older may  
58 be issued an identification card by the department which is  
59 certified by the registrant and attested by the commissioner as to  
60 true name, correct age and such other identifying data as required  
61 by Section 45-35-5.

62 (2) The new, renewal or duplicate identification card of a  
63 person required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Section  
64 45-33-25 shall bear a designation identifying the cardholder as a  
65 sex offender.

66 (3) The commissioner is authorized to provide the new,  
67 renewal or duplicate identification card to any honorably  
68 discharged veteran as defined in Title 38 of the United States  
69 Code or any person honorably discharged from the United States  
70 Armed Forces, including reserve components, and such



71 identification card shall exhibit the letters "Vet" or any other  
72 mark identifying the person as a veteran or person honorably  
73 discharged from the United States Armed Forces, including reserve  
74 components. The \* \* \* person requesting the "Vet" designation  
75 shall present his DD-214 or equivalent document that includes a  
76 notation from the State Veterans Affairs Board or Adjutant General  
77 that the applicant is a veteran or was honorably discharged from  
78 the United States Armed Forces, including reserve components.

79         **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
80 and after July 1, 2019.

