

By: Representatives Mickens, Byrd, Karriem

To: Transportation; Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 192
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-53, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO REVISE THE REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN LICENSE PLATES FOR DISABLED
3 VETERANS FROM ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PERMANENT SERVICE-CONNECTED
4 DISABILITY TO SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT PERMANENT SERVICE-CONNECTED
5 DISABILITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-53, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 27-19-53. (1) (a) (i) Any legal resident of the State of
10 Mississippi who is a veteran of service in the Armed Forces of the
11 United States, and who is rated as having * * * seventy-five
12 percent (75%) permanent service-connected disability by the
13 Veterans' Administration is privileged to purchase annually under
14 this subsection two (2) motor vehicle license plates or tags in
15 his or her county of legal residence, for the sum of One Dollar
16 (\$1.00) in total cost for each plate or tag, regardless of make or
17 model of motor vehicle. The registration year of such motor
18 vehicle shall commence the first day of the month in which



19 application for registration is made, as provided in Section
20 27-19-31.

21 (ii) Any legal resident of the State of
22 Mississippi who is a veteran of service in the Armed Forces of the
23 United States, and who is rated as having * * * seventy-five
24 percent (75%) permanent service-connected disability by the
25 Veterans' Administration is privileged to purchase annually under
26 this subsection one (1) motorcycle license plate or tag in his or
27 her county of legal residence, for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00)
28 in total cost for each plate or tag. The registration year of
29 such motorcycle shall commence the first day of the month in which
30 application for registration is made, as provided in Section
31 27-19-31.

32 (b) Not more than two (2) such motor vehicle license
33 plates or tags shall be issued under this subsection to each such
34 qualified veteran. Not more than one (1) such motorcycle license
35 plate or tag shall be issued under this subsection to each such
36 qualified veteran.

37 (c) This section pertains only to taxes or plates for
38 private passenger motor vehicles or pickup trucks or motorcycles.

39 (d) Proof of ownership of a particular motor vehicle or
40 motorcycle for which a license plate or tag is requested must be
41 shown at time of application for such plate or tag.

42 (e) Vehicles and motorcycles owned by such veterans are
43 exempt under this subsection from all ad valorem and privilege



44 taxes; however, the surviving spouse of a deceased person who was
45 issued a license plate or tag under this subsection shall be
46 entitled to apply for or retain a license tag issued under this
47 subsection and may continue annually to renew registration for two
48 (2) motor vehicle license plates or tags and one (1) motorcycle
49 license plate or tag under this subsection for as long as the
50 spouse remains unmarried. In addition, if a deceased person who
51 was eligible to be issued a license plate or tag under this
52 subsection did not apply for or was not issued a license plate or
53 tag, the surviving spouse of such deceased person shall be
54 entitled to apply for and be issued a license plate or tag under
55 this subsection and may continue annually to renew registration
56 for two (2) motor vehicle license plates or tags and one (1)
57 motorcycle license tag or plate under this subsection for as long
58 as the spouse remains unmarried. At the time of application or
59 renewal registration, a surviving spouse who desires to retain a
60 distinctive plate or tag issued under this subsection shall file
61 with the county tax collector a sworn statement that the spouse is
62 unmarried. Any such vehicle or motorcycle when so registered
63 shall be exempt from all ad valorem and privilege taxes.

64 (2) Any person who is entitled to obtain license tags under
65 subsection (1) of this section may be issued one (1) additional
66 such license tag for any other vehicle registered in his or her
67 name upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad



68 valorem taxes and registration fees as otherwise prescribed by law
69 for the particular vehicle.

70 (3) The Department of Revenue is directed to furnish each
71 veteran obtaining a license tag under this section an emblem,
72 which the veteran shall attach securely to the tag, showing that
73 the tag was issued to a disabled American veteran.

74 (4) A license issued under this section shall not be
75 transferable to any other person.

76 (5) Any person evading or violating any of the provisions of
77 this section, or attempting to secure benefits under this section
78 to which he is not entitled, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and,
79 upon conviction, shall be fined not less than One Thousand Dollars
80 (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for not less than
81 ninety (90) days, or both.

82 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
83 and after its passage.

