

By: Representative Young

To: Ways and Means

## HOUSE BILL NO. 636

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.373, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE  
3 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL; AND FOR  
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.373, Mississippi Code of 1972,  
7 is amended as follows:

8 27-19-56.373. (1) Beginning with any registration year  
9 commencing on or after July 1, 2022, any owner of a motor vehicle  
10 who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and  
11 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as  
12 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup  
13 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of  
14 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this  
15 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor  
16 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a  
17 supporter of the Meridian High School. The distinctive license  
18 tags so issued shall be of such color and design as the Department  
19 of Revenue, with the advice of the Principal of Meridian High



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

23 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized  
24 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms  
25 prescribed by the Department of Revenue. The application and the  
26 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less  
27 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,  
28 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis  
29 as prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional  
30 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the  
31 county general fund.

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



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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be distributed to Meridian High School.

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

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

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

(5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under



69 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the  
70 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under  
71 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license  
72 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,  
73 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license  
74 tag.

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

85 (7) In order for a distinctive license tag to be issued  
86 under this section, the provisions of Section 27-19-44(3) must be  
87 satisfied for the distinctive license tag before July 1, 2025.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
89 and after July 1, 2022.

