

By: Senator(s) Harkins, Michel, Fillingane, Younger, DeBar, Blount, Moran, Caughman, Boyd, England, Thompson, Suber, Hickman, Williams, Hill, Branning, Sparks, McCaughn, Turner-Ford, Parker

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2223
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
2 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE 2021 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
3 BULLDOGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** (1) Beginning with any registration year
6 commencing on or after July 1, 2022, any owner of a motor vehicle
7 who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and
8 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
9 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
10 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
11 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
12 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
13 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
14 supporter of the 2021 National Championship Bulldogs. The
15 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
16 design as the Department of Revenue, with the advice of the
17 President of Mississippi State University or his designee, may
18 prescribe and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both,



19 as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag. The
20 President of Mississippi State University or his designee shall
21 choose the first one hundred (100) tag numbers and provide them to
22 the Department of Revenue.

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) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
33 after July 1, 2022, any person applying for a distinctive license
34 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
35 of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each distinctive license tag applied
36 for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other
37 taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of
38 time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established license
39 tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the
40 original application is made for a distinctive license tag under
41 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
42 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license



43 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
44 tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

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

52 (a) Forty-four Dollars (\$44.00) of each additional fee
53 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
54 section shall be distributed to the Mississippi State University
55 Foundation.

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

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

65 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
66 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall



67 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
68 27-19-44.2.

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

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

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

