

By: Senator(s) Carter

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2749

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE  
2 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE PRO-LIFE BILLBOARD INITIATIVE;  
3 TO PRESCRIBE AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH TAGS; TO  
4 PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ADDITIONAL FEE COLLECTED FROM  
5 THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH TAGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle, upon payment  
8 of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and  
9 registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of  
10 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,  
11 and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in  
12 subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive  
13 license tag which identifies such person as a supporter of the  
14 Pro-Life Billboard Initiative. The distinctive tags shall be of  
15 such color and design as the Department of Revenue, with the  
16 advice of the Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life, may prescribe and shall  
17 consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary  
18 to distinguish each tag.



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

28           (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or  
29 after July 1, 2022, any person applying for a distinctive tag  
30 under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of  
31 Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each tag applied for under this  
32 section, which shall be in addition to all other taxes and fees.  
33 The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time to run  
34 concurrently with the vehicle's established license tag year. The  
35 additional fee is due and payable at the time the original  
36 application is made for a distinctive tag under this section and  
37 thereafter annually at the time of renewal registration as long as  
38 the owner retains the distinctive tag. If the owner does not wish  
39 to retain the distinctive tag, he must surrender it to the local  
40 county tax collector.

41           (4) The Department of Revenue shall deposit all fees into  
42 the State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each  
43 month, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the State



44 Treasurer the total fees collected under this section from the  
45 issuance of the tags under this section. The State Treasurer  
46 shall distribute such collections as follows:

47 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee  
48 collected on tags issued under this section shall be distributed  
49 to the Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life.

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

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

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

60 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as  
61 required by law until replaced by a tag issued under this section.  
62 The regular tag must be surrendered to the tax collector upon  
63 issuance of the distinctive tag. The tax collector shall issue up  
64 to two (2) license decals for each tag issued, which will expire  
65 the same month and year as the regular license tag.

66 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a tag issued under this  
67 section, the owner may make application and affidavit for a  
68 replacement distinctive license tag as provided by Section



69 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license tag shall  
70 be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving such  
71 application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and deposit  
72 into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee for such  
73 replacement license tag and the remainder shall be distributed in  
74 the same manner as funds from the sale of original tags issued  
75 under this section.

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

