

By: Representative Miles

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 836

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.57, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE  
3 LICENSE TAG IDENTIFYING THE OWNER OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE AS A MEMBER  
4 OF THE CLERGY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.57, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 27-19-56.57. (1) Beginning with any registration year  
9 commencing on or after July 1, \* \* \* 2023, any owner of a motor  
10 vehicle who is a resident of this state and who is a member of the  
11 clergy, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad  
12 valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law for  
13 private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other  
14 noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional  
15 fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section,  
16 shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor vehicle  
17 registered in his name identifying such person as a member of the  
18 clergy. The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such  
19 color and design as the Department of Revenue may prescribe and



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

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

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

43 (4) The Department of Revenue shall deposit all fees into  
44 the State Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each



45 month, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the State  
46 Treasurer the total fees collected under this section from the  
47 issuance of the distinctive license tags issued under this  
48 section. The State Treasurer shall distribute such collections as  
49 follows:

50 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee  
51 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
52 section shall be distributed to the Baptist Children's Village of  
53 Mississippi.

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

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

63 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected  
64 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall  
65 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section  
66 27-19-44.2.

67 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as  
68 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, \* \* \*  
88 2026.

89 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
90 and after July 1, 2023.

