

By: Representative Banks

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 834

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 WHICH AUTHORIZES THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE
3 TAGS TO MEMBERS AND CERTAIN FORMER MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE, FOR
4 THE PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 brought forward as follows:

8 27-19-56.3. (1) (a) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is an
9 elected member of the Mississippi House of Representatives or
10 Mississippi Senate, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws
11 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, upon
12 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
13 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
14 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
15 and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in
16 subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive
17 license tag for each motor vehicle registered in his name. Each
18 distinctive license tag issued under this section shall have
19 displayed thereon the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi and



20 the word "HOUSE" or "SENATE," as appropriate, and, in addition
21 thereto, such numbers or letters, or both, as may be necessary to
22 distinguish each license tag. The State Tax Commission shall
23 determine the color and design of each distinctive license tag
24 issued under this section and whether or not a county name shall
25 be required to be displayed on the tag.

26 (b) Any owner of a motor vehicle who served at least
27 two (2) complete four (4) year terms as an elected member of the
28 Mississippi House of Representatives or Mississippi Senate, and
29 who is receiving retirement compensation under the Public
30 Employees' Retirement System created under Section 25-11-101,
31 and/or the Supplemental Legislative Retirement Plan created under
32 Section 25-11-301, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws
33 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, upon
34 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
35 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
36 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
37 and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in
38 subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive
39 license tag for each motor vehicle registered in his name. Each
40 distinctive license tag issued under this section shall have
41 displayed thereon the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi and
42 the words "RETIRED HOUSE" or "RETIRED SENATE," as appropriate,
43 and, in addition thereto, such numbers or letters, or both, as may
44 be necessary to distinguish each license tag. The State Tax



45 Commission shall determine the color and design of each
46 distinctive license tag issued under this section and whether or
47 not a county name shall be required to be displayed on the tag.

48 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
49 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
50 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
51 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
52 three percent (3%) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
53 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis
54 as prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional
55 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the
56 county general fund.

57 (3) Any person applying for a distinctive license tag under
58 this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Fifty
59 Dollars (\$50.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for
60 under this section which shall be in addition to all other taxes
61 and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time
62 to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag year.
63 The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original
64 application is made for a distinctive license tag under this
65 section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
66 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
67 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
68 tag, or if the owner retires or resigns from or otherwise vacates



69 his membership in the Legislature, he must surrender the tag to
70 the local county tax collector.

71 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees
72 collected under this section into the State Treasury on the day
73 collected. At the end of each month, the State Tax Commission
74 shall certify to the State Treasurer the total fees collected
75 under this section from the issuance of distinctive license tags.
76 The State Treasurer shall distribute an amount equal to Seven
77 Dollars (\$7.00) of the additional fees collected for each such
78 distinctive license tag issued under this section to the State
79 General Fund, and the remainder of such additional fees collected
80 shall be distributed by the State Treasurer to the credit of the
81 special fund created in Section 7-9-70.

82 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
83 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
84 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
85 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
86 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
87 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
88 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
89 tag.

90 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
91 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
92 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
93 Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license



94 tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving
95 such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and
96 deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee
97 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be
98 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular
99 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

100 (7) (a) In addition to any other provisions of this
101 section, any person eligible for a distinctive license tag under
102 this section may, regardless of whether the person obtains such a
103 license tag, obtain a replica tag of the distinctive license tag
104 authorized in this section. A replica tag may not be displayed on
105 any motor vehicle and may not be used for any motor vehicle
106 license tag purpose. A person may obtain a replica tag from the
107 Department of Revenue and the additional fee for the tag shall be
108 the cost of the replica tag and any applicable shipping or
109 delivery charge or other related charge incurred by the
110 department.

111 (b) In addition to any other provisions of this
112 section, any owner of a motor vehicle who served at least six (6)
113 years as an elected member of the Mississippi House of
114 Representatives or Mississippi Senate may obtain a replica tag of
115 the distinctive license tag authorized in subsection (1)(a) of
116 this section for which the person would be eligible to obtain if
117 the person were serving as an elected member of the Mississippi
118 House of Representatives or Mississippi Senate. A replica tag may



119 not be displayed on any motor vehicle and may not be used for any
120 motor vehicle license tag purpose. A person may obtain a replica
121 tag from the Department of Revenue and the additional fee for the
122 tag shall be the cost of the replica tag and any applicable
123 shipping or delivery charge or other related charge incurred by
124 the department.

125 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
126 and after July 1, 2024.

