

By: Senator(s) Williams

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2212

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.387, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
3 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF MISSISSIPPI
4 ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 27-19-44,
5 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT;
6 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.387, Mississippi Code of 1972,
9 is amended as follows:

10 27-19-56.387. (1) Beginning with any registration year
11 commencing on or after July 1, 2024, any owner of a motor vehicle
12 who is a resident of this state and a member of the Grand Chapter
13 of * * * Mississippi Order of the Eastern Star or the spouse * * *
14 or child of a deceased member, upon payment of the road and bridge
15 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
16 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
17 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
18 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
19 section, shall be entitled to be issued a distinctive license tag
20 for any motor vehicle registered in their name. The distinctive



21 license tags so issued shall be of such color and design as the
22 Department of Revenue, with the advice of the Grand Chapter
23 of * * * Mississippi Order of the Eastern Star, may prescribe and
24 shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be
25 necessary to distinguish each license tag.

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

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



46 tag, he or she must surrender it to the local county tax
47 collector.

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

55 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
56 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
57 section shall be distributed to the Grand Chapter of * * *
58 Mississippi Order of the Eastern Star.

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

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

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



70 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
71 27-19-44.2.

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

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

90 **SECTION 2.** Section 27-19-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
91 brought forward as follows:

92 27-19-44. (1) For any distinctive license tag or plate
93 authorized by the Legislature from and after July 1, 2000, through
94 June 30, 2002, or authorized by Sections 27-19-56.37 and



95 27-19-56.55, the requirements of this subsection must be met
96 before the Department of Revenue may prepare or issue any such
97 license tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which
98 the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate
99 must submit proof satisfactory to the Department of Revenue that
100 at least one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates will be
101 purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary
102 to purchase one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The
103 organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized
104 the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements
105 of this subsection (1) within two (2) years after the effective
106 date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to
107 permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

108 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (1) of this
109 section, for any distinctive license tag or plate authorized by
110 the Legislature from and after July 1, 2002, through June 30,
111 2007, the requirements of this subsection must be met before the
112 Department of Revenue may prepare or issue any such license tag or
113 plate. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature
114 authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof
115 satisfactory to the Department of Revenue that at least two
116 hundred (200) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and
117 must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase
118 two hundred (200) of such license tags or plates. The
119 organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized



120 the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements
121 of this subsection (2) within three (3) years after the effective
122 date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to
123 permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

124 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, Section
125 27-19-56.7, Section 27-19-56.56, Section 27-19-56.59, Section
126 27-19-56.85 or Section 27-19-56.94, for any distinctive license
127 tag or plate authorized or reauthorized by the Legislature from
128 and after July 1, 2007, the following requirements must be met
129 before the Department of Revenue may prepare or issue any such
130 license tag or plate:

131 (a) The organization or other entity for which the
132 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must
133 submit proof satisfactory to the Department of Revenue that at
134 least three hundred (300) of such license tags or plates will be
135 purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary
136 to purchase three hundred (300) of such license tags or plates.

137 (b) The organization or other entity for which the
138 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must
139 satisfy the requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection (3)
140 within three (3) years after the effective date of the law
141 authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit the
142 license tag or plate to be prepared and issued. This paragraph
143 (b) shall not apply to distinctive tags or plates issued under
144 Section 27-19-56.154.



145 (4) Any distinctive license tag authorized under Sections
146 27-19-56.186, 27-19-56.203 and 27-19-56.315 must meet the
147 requirements of this subsection before the Department of Revenue
148 may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate. The
149 organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized
150 the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof
151 satisfactory to the Department of Revenue that at least one
152 hundred (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and
153 must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase
154 one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The
155 organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized
156 the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements
157 of this subsection (4) within three (3) years after the effective
158 date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to
159 permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

160 (5) The distinctive license tags authorized under Section
161 27-19-56.108 must meet the requirements of this subsection before
162 the Department of Revenue may prepare or issue any such license
163 tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which the
164 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must
165 submit proof satisfactory to the Department of Revenue that at
166 least two hundred (200) of such license tags or plates will be
167 purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary
168 to purchase two hundred (200) of such license tags or plates.



169 (6) If the organization or other entity for which the
170 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate meets
171 the requirements of subsection (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5) of this
172 section, the Department of Revenue shall prepare and issue the
173 distinctive license tag or plate.

174 (7) The Department of Revenue shall review the number of
175 distinctive or special license tags or plates issued pursuant to
176 this chapter during the period for the license tag or plate
177 series. If the number of any distinctive or special license tag
178 or plate issued pursuant to this chapter falls below one hundred
179 (100) in the last year of the license tag or plate series, the
180 distinctive or special license tag or plate shall be discontinued
181 at the end of the period for the license tag or plate series.

182 (8) If a distinctive or special license tag or plate is
183 discontinued under subsection (7) of this section, the
184 organization or other entity for which the license tag or plate
185 was discontinued may prepare a distinctive or special license tag
186 or plate decal. The distinctive or special license tag or plate
187 decal shall be of such size, color and design as may be agreed
188 upon by the organization or other entity and the Department of
189 Revenue. However, the Department of Revenue shall have final
190 approval of the size, color and design of the decal. The
191 distinctive or special license tag or plate decals shall be
192 prepared and sold by the organization or other entity, and the
193 proceeds derived from the sale of such decals shall be retained by



194 the organization or other entity for any use deemed appropriate by
195 the organization or other entity.

196 (9) The provisions of this section shall not apply to
197 distinctive or special license tags or plates:

198 (a) Which are issued under Section 27-19-45, 27-19-46,
199 27-19-47.1, 27-19-47.2, 27-19-48, 27-19-49, 27-19-53, 27-19-55,
200 27-19-56, 27-19-56.1, 27-19-56.2, 27-19-56.3, 27-19-56.5,
201 27-19-56.6, 27-19-56.9, 27-19-56.11, 27-19-56.12, 27-19-56.13,
202 27-19-56.40, 27-19-56.62, 27-19-56.69, 27-19-56.79, 27-19-56.90,
203 27-19-56.125, 27-19-56.127, 27-19-56.137, 27-19-56.140,
204 27-19-56.162, 27-19-56.187, 27-19-56.199, 27-19-56.205,
205 27-19-56.239, 27-19-56.292, 27-19-56.318, 27-19-56.379,
206 27-19-56.425, 27-19-56.466, 27-19-56.489, 27-19-56.522(1)(a),
207 27-19-56.524 or 27-19-56.557; or

208 (b) For which no additional fee is required to be paid.

209 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
210 and after July 1, 2024.

