

By: Representative Lamar

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 920
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.549, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
3 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
4 CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF AMERICAN FREEDOM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
5 MISSISSIPPI; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
6 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF MISSISSIPPI LAND BANK; TO
7 AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS
8 TO SUPPORTERS OF THE LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT
9 OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE
10 MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD
11 ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF
12 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF
13 MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF
14 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF MAGNOLIA
15 HONEYBEE EDUCATION EXCHANGE; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF
16 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE
17 COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI
18 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF
19 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF PROMOTING
20 PEACE, ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE COOPERATION BETWEEN PROMOTE PEACE
21 FOUNDATION AND MISSISSIPPI ROTARY CLUBS; TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE
22 OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE
23 JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY 2024 HBCU NATIONAL CHAMPIONS; TO AMEND
24 SECTION 27-19-44, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCLUDE THE
25 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAG AUTHORIZED TO BE ISSUED TO
26 SUPPORTERS OF MISSISSIPPI LAND BANK WITHIN THE DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
27 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS THAT MAY BE ISSUED AFTER PROOF HAS BEEN
28 SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE THAT 100 OF THE TAGS WILL
29 BE PURCHASED; TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
30 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
31 LICENSE TAGS DISPLAYING THE EMBLEM OF A PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE
32 OR JUNIOR COLLEGE IN THIS STATE; TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.246,
33 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF
34 DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE



35 PASCAGOULA HIGH SCHOOL; TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.431, MISSISSIPPI
36 CODE OF 1972, TO REAUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
37 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORTERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SICKLE CELL
38 FOUNDATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

40 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-56.549, Mississippi Code of 1972,
41 is amended as follows:

42 27-19-56.549. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
43 resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge
44 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
45 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
46 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
47 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (4) of this
48 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
49 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
50 supporter of any one (1) of the following:

- 51 (a) Mississippi Association of Nurse Practitioners;
- 52 (b) Navy Seabee Foundation;
- 53 (c) Saint Stanislaus College in Bay Saint Louis,
54 Mississippi;
- 55 (d) Vancleave Live Oak Choctaw;
- 56 (e) Morton High School;
- 57 (f) Forest Municipal School District;
- 58 (g) Lake High School;
- 59 (h) Scott Central Attendance Center;
- 60 (i) Sebastopol Attendance Center;
- 61 (j) East Rankin Academy;



62 (k) Houston High School;
63 (l) Magnolia Heights School;
64 (m) Regents School of Oxford;
65 (n) The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.;
66 (o) Baptist Health Foundation, Inc.;
67 (p) Greene County Wildcats;
68 (q) Mississippi Disc Golf;
69 (r) Mississippi Road Builders Association;
70 (s) Clinton Public School District;
71 (t) Magnolia Speech School;
72 (u) Coahoma County Jr./Sr. High School;
73 (v) Clinton Community Nature Center;
74 (w) Most Worshipful King Hiram Grand Lodge, A.F. &
75 A.M., State of Mississippi;
76 (x) Electra Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star,
77 A.F. & A.M., State of Mississippi;
78 (y) City of Olive Branch, Mississippi;
79 (z) Methodist Cursillo of Mississippi;
80 (aa) Clarkdale High School in Lauderdale County,
81 Mississippi;
82 (ab) Columbia Academy Cougars;
83 (ac) Mississippi Hunting Dog Association;
84 (ad) O'Keefe Educational Media DBA Disability
85 Connection;
86 (ae) New Orleans Pelicans;



(af) Mississippi Economic Council;
(ag) Lighthouse Academy for Dyslexia;
(ah) The Declaration of Independence Center for the
Study of American Freedom at the University of Mississippi;
(ai) Mississippi Land Bank;
(aj) Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of
Kiwanis International;
(ak) National Guard Association of Mississippi;
(al) Mississippi College School of Law;
(am) Magnolia Honeybee Education Exchange.

(2) The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and design as the department, with the advice of the respective beneficiary organization listed in subsection (1) of this section, may prescribe and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

(3) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms prescribed by the department. The application and the additional fee imposed under subsection (4) of this section, less Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be remitted to the department on a monthly basis as prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county general fund.



111 (4) Any person applying for a distinctive license tag under
112 this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty
113 Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for
114 under this section, which shall be in addition to all other taxes
115 and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time
116 to run concurrently with the vehicle's established license tag
117 year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the
118 original application is made for a distinctive license tag under
119 this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
120 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
121 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
122 tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

123 (5) The department shall deposit all fees into the State
124 Treasury on the day collected. At the end of each month, the
125 department shall certify to the State Treasurer the total fees
126 collected under this section from the issuance of the distinctive
127 license tags issued under this section. The State Treasurer shall
128 distribute such collections as follows:

129 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
130 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
131 section shall be distributed to the appropriate beneficiary
132 organization listed in subsection (1) of this section.

133 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
134 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall



be deposited into the Mississippi Burn Care Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

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

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

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

(7) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and



160 deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee
161 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be
162 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular
163 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

164 **SECTION 2.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
165 retired member of the Commercial Transportation Enforcement
166 Division of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and who is
167 a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge
168 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
169 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
170 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
171 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
172 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
173 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
174 retired member of the Commercial Transportation Enforcement
175 Division of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety. The
176 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
177 design as the Department of Revenue, with the advice of the
178 Department of Public Safety, may prescribe and shall consist of
179 such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
180 distinguish each license tag.

181 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
182 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
183 prescribed by the Department of Revenue. An applicant for such a
184 distinctive license tag shall present proof that he or she is a



185 retired member of the Commercial Transportation Enforcement
186 Division of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety by
187 presentation of a signed and notarized affidavit from the
188 Commissioner of Public Safety. The application and the additional
189 fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less Two Dollars
190 (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be
191 remitted to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis as
192 prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional fee
193 retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county
194 general fund.

195 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
196 after July 1, 2025, any person applying for a distinctive license
197 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
198 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
199 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
200 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
201 period of time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established
202 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
203 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
204 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
205 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
206 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
207 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
208 collector.



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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Death Benefits Trust Fund established in Section 45-2-1.

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

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

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



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

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

SECTION 3. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor



259 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
260 supporter of Promoting Peace, accomplished through the cooperation
261 between Promote Peace Foundation and Mississippi Rotary clubs.
262 The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
263 design as the Department of Revenue, with the advice of the
264 Promote the Peace Foundation, may prescribe and shall consist of
265 such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
266 distinguish each license tag.

267 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
268 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
269 prescribed by the Department of Revenue. The application and the
270 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
271 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
272 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis
273 as prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional
274 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the
275 county general fund.

276 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
277 after July 1, 2025, any person applying for a distinctive license
278 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
279 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
280 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
281 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
282 period of time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established
283 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the



time the original application is made for a distinctive license tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be distributed to Promote Peace Foundation to be used to support peacebuilding and conflict resolution initiatives within the State of Mississippi in cooperation with the Mississippi Rotary organizations outreaching to their community with projects related to promoting peace implemented by Mississippi Rotary clubs.

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



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

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

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

(6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be



distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under this section.

SECTION 4. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a supporter of the Jackson State Tigers 2024 HBCU National Champions. The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and design as the department, with the advice of the Jackson State University Development Foundation, may prescribe and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

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



(3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or after July 1, 2025, any person applying for a distinctive license tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original application is made for a distinctive license tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be distributed to the Jackson State University Development Foundation.



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

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

391 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
392 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
393 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
394 27-19-44.2.

395 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
396 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
397 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
398 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
399 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
400 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
401 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
402 tag.

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



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

SECTION 5. Section 27-19-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

27-19-44. (1) For any distinctive license tag or plate authorized by the Legislature from and after July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2002, or authorized by Sections 27-19-56.37 and 27-19-56.55, the requirements of this subsection must be met before the department may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof satisfactory to the department that at least one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this subsection (1) within two (2) years after the effective date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.



(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (1) of this section, for any distinctive license tag or plate authorized by the Legislature from and after July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2007, the requirements of this subsection must be met before the department may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof satisfactory to the department that at least two hundred (200) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase two hundred (200) of such license tags or plates. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this subsection (2) within three (3) years after the effective date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

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

(a) The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must



submit proof satisfactory to the department that at least three hundred (300) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase three hundred (300) of such license tags or plates.

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

(4) Any distinctive license tag authorized under Sections 27-19-56.186, 27-19-56.203 and 27-19-56.315 must meet the requirements of this subsection before the department may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof satisfactory to the department that at least one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this subsection (4) within three (3) years after the effective date of the law authorizing the license



tag or plate in order to permit the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

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

(6) Any distinctive license tag authorized under Section 27-19-56.549(1)(l), (n) * * *, (z) or (ai) must meet the requirements of this subsection before the department may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof satisfactory to the department that at least one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must deposit with the department an amount necessary to purchase one hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The organization or other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this subsection (4) within three (3) years after the effective date of the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit the license tag or plate to be



506 prepared and issued. Until a total of three hundred (300) such
507 tags are sold, the department shall deposit the proceeds of the
508 additional fee into the License Tag Acquisition Fund created in
509 Section 27-19-179. After three hundred (300) tags are sold, the
510 proceeds of the additional fee shall be distributed as provided in
511 the section authorizing the issuance of the applicable special
512 tag. The department may promulgate rules and regulations to
513 administer this subsection.

514 (7) If the organization or other entity for which the
515 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate meets
516 the requirements of subsection (1), (2), (3), (4) * * *, (5) or
517 (6) of this section, the department shall prepare and issue the
518 distinctive license tag or plate.

519 (8) The department shall review the number of distinctive or
520 special license tags or plates issued pursuant to this chapter
521 during the period for the license tag or plate series. If the
522 number of any distinctive or special license tag or plate issued
523 pursuant to this chapter falls below one hundred (100) in the last
524 year of the license tag or plate series, the distinctive or
525 special license tag or plate shall be discontinued at the end of
526 the period for the license tag or plate series.

527 (9) If a distinctive or special license tag or plate is
528 discontinued under subsection (7) of this section, the
529 organization or other entity for which the license tag or plate
530 was discontinued may prepare a distinctive or special license tag



or plate decal. The distinctive or special license tag or plate decal shall be of such size, color and design as may be agreed upon by the organization or other entity and the department. However, the department shall have final approval of the size, color and design of the decal. The distinctive or special license tag or plate decals shall be prepared and sold by the organization or other entity, and the proceeds derived from the sale of such decals shall be retained by the organization or other entity for any use deemed appropriate by the organization or other entity.

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

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

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

SECTION 6. Section 27-19-56.7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:



555 27-19-56.7. (1) Beginning with any registration year
556 commencing on or after July 1, 2008, owners of motor vehicles upon
557 complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and
558 licensing of motor vehicles, and upon payment of the road and
559 bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
560 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
561 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
562 an additional annual fee in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00),
563 shall be issued a special license tag which displays the emblem of
564 the public junior college or community college of his choice
565 located in this state.

566 (2) Each junior college and community college shall design
567 the emblem which shall be displayed on the special license tag.
568 The emblem shall be affixed during the production of the license
569 tag.

570 (3) Application for the special license tags shall be made
571 to the county tax collector on forms prescribed by the Department
572 of Revenue. The application and the additional fee, less five
573 percent (5%) thereof to be retained by the tax collector, shall be
574 remitted to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis as
575 prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional fee
576 retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county
577 general fund.



(4) The special license tag shall be issued for a one-year period. The additional annual fee shall be due and payable at the time of renewal registration.

(5) The Department of Revenue shall deposit all fees into the State Treasury on the day received. At the end of each month, the Department of Revenue shall certify the total fees collected under this section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute such collections as follows:

(a) Thirty-two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$32.50) of each additional fee collected on special license tags shall be deposited in a special fund hereby created in the State Treasury to the credit of the public junior college or community college named on the special license tag. The funds shall be available for expenditure at the discretion of the public junior college or community college.

(b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected on special license tags shall be deposited into the Mississippi Burn Care Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

(c) The remainder of each such additional fee shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or reconstruction of highways.

(6) In order for a license tag for a community or junior college to be prepared and issued by the Department of Revenue,



602 the provisions of Section 27-19-44(2) shall be satisfied prior to
603 July 1, * * * 2028.

604 **SECTION 7.** Section 27-19-56.246, Mississippi Code of 1972,
605 is amended as follows:

606 27-19-56.246. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
607 resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge
608 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
609 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
610 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
611 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
612 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
613 vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
614 supporter of Pascagoula High School. The distinctive license tags
615 so issued shall be of such color and design as the Department of
616 Revenue, with the advice of the principal of Pascagoula High
617 School, may prescribe and shall consist of such letters or
618 numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license
619 tag.

620 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
621 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
622 prescribed by the Department of Revenue. The application and the
623 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
624 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
625 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis
626 as prescribed by the department. The portion of the additional



fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the county general fund.

(3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or after July 1, * * * 2025, any person applying for a distinctive license tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time to run concurrently with the vehicle's established license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original application is made for a distinctive license tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this



section shall be distributed to the Pascagoula Athletic Foundation.

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

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

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

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

(6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and



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

(7) In order for a distinctive license tag to be issued
under this section, the provisions of Section 27-19-44(3) must be
satisfied for the distinctive license tag before July 1, 2028.

SECTION 8. Section 27-19-56.431, Mississippi Code of 1972,
is amended as follows:

27-19-56.431. (1) Beginning with any registration year
commencing on or after July 1, * * * 2025, any owner of a motor
vehicle who is a resident of this state, upon payment of the road
and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees
as prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor
vehicle registered in his name identifying such person as a
supporter of the Mississippi Sickle Cell Foundation. The
distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
design as the Department of Revenue, with the advice of the



Mississippi Sickle Cell Foundation, may prescribe and shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

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

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



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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall be distributed to the Mississippi Sickle Cell Foundation.

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

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

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



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

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

(7) In order for a distinctive license tag to be issued under this section, the provisions of Section 27-19-44(3) must be satisfied for the distinctive license tag before July 1, * * * 2028.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

