

**Replace By Substitute  
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

**House Bill No. 1338**

**BY: Committee**

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting  
in lieu thereof the following:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 25-1-87, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
brought forward as follows:

25-1-87. All motor vehicles owned or leased by the State of  
Mississippi or any agency, department or political subdivision  
thereof, which shall include counties and municipalities, when  
such agency or department or political subdivision, which shall  
include counties and municipalities, is supported wholly or in  
part by public taxes or by appropriations from public funds, shall  
have painted on both sides in letters at least three (3) inches in  
height, and on the rear in letters not less than one and one-half



16 (1-1/2) inches in height, the name of the state agency or  
17 department, or political subdivision, which shall include counties  
18 and municipalities, in a color which is in contrast with the color  
19 of the vehicle; provided, however, that a permanent decal may be  
20 used in lieu of paint, and provided further, that any municipality  
21 may affix a permanent decal or design at least twelve (12) inches  
22 in height and twelve (12) inches in width on both sides of the  
23 vehicle with the name of the municipality within or across the  
24 permanent decal or design, and the permanent design or decal shall  
25 be in a color or colors which are in contrast with the color of  
26 the vehicle. No privilege license tag shall be issued for such  
27 vehicle until the name has been painted thereon or a permanent  
28 design or decal affixed thereto as required by this section. A  
29 permanent decal may be used in lieu of paint. The provisions of  
30 this paragraph shall not apply to vehicles used by the Chief  
31 Executive of the State of Mississippi, to vehicles owned or leased  
32 by the Department of Economic and Community Development, to  
33 vehicles owned or leased by the Office of the Attorney General, to  
34 not more than one (1) vehicle owned or leased by the Department of  
35 Public Safety for use by the Capitol Police, to vehicles owned or  
36 leased by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure and  
37 used only by the Investigative Division of the board, to one (1)  
38 vehicle owned or leased by the Executive Director of the  
39 Department of Mental Health, to not more than one (1) vehicle  
40 owned or leased by the Mississippi Division of Medicaid, to one



41 (1) vehicle owned or leased by the State Department of  
42 Rehabilitation Services, to one (1) vehicle owned or leased by the  
43 Mississippi Department of Transportation, to one (1) vehicle owned  
44 or leased by the Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of  
45 Corrections, to not more than three (3) vehicles owned or leased  
46 by the Department of Corrections and used only by Community  
47 Services Division officers, to not more than one (1) vehicle owned  
48 or leased by the Mississippi Department of Transportation and used  
49 only by an investigator employed by the Mississippi Department of  
50 Transportation, to not more than two (2) vehicles owned or leased  
51 by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, or to not more  
52 than one (1) vehicle owned or leased by the Department of Revenue;  
53 and upon receipt of a written request from the State Adjutant  
54 General, the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Director of the  
55 Alcoholic Beverage Control Division of the Department of Revenue,  
56 the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife,  
57 Fisheries and Parks, the Director of the Bureau of Narcotics, the  
58 Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, the Executive Director  
59 of the Mississippi Gaming Commission, the State Auditor or a  
60 president or chancellor of a state institution of higher learning,  
61 the Governor may authorize the use of specified unmarked vehicles  
62 only in instances where such identifying marks will hinder  
63 official investigations, and the governing authorities of any  
64 municipality may authorize the use of specified, unmarked police  
65 vehicles when identifying marks would hinder official criminal



66 investigations by the police. The written request or the order or  
67 resolution authorizing such shall contain the manufacturer's  
68 serial number, the state inventory number, where applicable, and  
69 shall set forth why the vehicle should be exempt from the  
70 provisions of this paragraph. In the event the request is  
71 granted, the Governor shall furnish the State Department of Audit  
72 with a copy of his written authority for the use of the unmarked  
73 vehicles, or the governing authority, as the case may be, shall  
74 enter its order or resolution on the minutes and shall furnish the  
75 State Department of Audit with a certified copy of its order or  
76 resolution for the use of the unmarked police vehicle. The state  
77 property auditors of the State Department of Audit shall  
78 personally examine vehicles owned or leased by the State of  
79 Mississippi or any agency, department or commission thereof and  
80 report violations of the provisions of this paragraph to the State  
81 Auditor and the Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on  
82 Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review. Any vehicle found  
83 to be in violation of this paragraph shall be reported immediately  
84 to the department head charged with such vehicle, and five (5)  
85 days shall be given for compliance; and if not complied with, such  
86 vehicles shall be impounded by the State Auditor until properly  
87 marked or exempted.

88       Upon notification to the Department of Revenue by the State  
89 Auditor that any municipality or political subdivision is not in  
90 compliance with this section, the Department of Revenue shall



91 withhold any sales tax due for distribution to any such  
92 municipality and any excise tax on gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene  
93 and oil due any such county and for any months thereafter, and  
94 shall continue to withhold such funds until compliance with this  
95 section is certified to the Department of Revenue by the State  
96 Department of Audit.

97 County-owned motor vehicles operated by the sheriff's  
98 department shall not be subject to the provisions of this section,  
99 but shall be subject to the provisions of Section 19-25-15.

100 County-owned motor vehicles operated by a family court established  
101 pursuant to Section 43-23-1 et seq., shall not be subject to the  
102 provisions of this section.

103 State-owned or leased motor vehicles operated by the  
104 Department of Mental Health or by facilities operated by the  
105 Department of Mental Health and used for transporting patients  
106 living in group homes or alternative living arrangements shall not  
107 be subject to the provisions of this section.

108 Up to four (4) passenger automobiles owned or leased by  
109 economic development districts or economic development authorities  
110 shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.

111 State-owned or leased motor vehicles operated by the  
112 Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau of the Department of  
113 Agriculture and Commerce and used to investigate livestock theft  
114 shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.



Up to three (3) motor vehicles owned or leased by the Pascagoula Municipal Separate School District for use by district security officers shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles owned or leased by the Department of Human Services, Office of Inspector General for use only by Mississippi certified law enforcement officers who are assigned to the Fraud Investigative Unit.

Up to three (3) motor vehicles owned or leased by the Department of Insurance for use by the State Fire Marshal's Office shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.

The motor vehicles of a public airport shall not be subject to the provisions of this section upon a finding by the governing authority of such airport that marking a motor vehicle as required in this section will compromise security at such airport.

**SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2025.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:**

AN ACT TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 25-1-87, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH IS THE PROVISION THAT GOVERNS IDENTIFICATION, TAGS, AND DECALS ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT VEHICLES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

