

By: Representative Eads

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 627

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-56.15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
 2 1972, TO INCREASE THE ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED TO BE COLLECTED FOR  
 3 ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS DISPLAYING THE EMBLEM OF  
 4 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES LOCATED IN OTHER STATES; TO PROVIDE THAT  
 5 PROCEEDS FROM THE INCREASED FEE SHALL BE DEPOSITED TO THE CREDIT  
 6 OF THE STATE HIGHWAY FUND AND EXPENDED SOLELY FOR THE REPAIR,  
 7 MAINTENANCE, CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF HIGHWAYS; AND FOR  
 8 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. Section 27-19-56.15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
 11 amended as follows:

12 27-19-56.15. (1) (a) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a  
 13 resident of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws  
 14 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and upon  
 15 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes  
 16 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of  
 17 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,  
 18 and upon payment of an additional annual fee in the amount of  
 19 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), shall be issued a distinctive license tag  
 20 that displays the emblem of any public university of his choice  
 21 located in another state.

22 (b) The design of the emblems for the distinctive  
 23 license tags authorized under this subsection shall be determined  
 24 by agreement between the State Tax Commission and the governing  
 25 authorities of public universities in the states where the  
 26 universities are located. Such other design characteristics and  
 27 information to be contained on such distinctive license tags shall  
 28 be determined by the State Tax Commission.

29           (c) Application for the distinctive license tag  
30 authorized under this subsection shall be made to the county tax  
31 collector on forms prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The  
32 application and the additional fee, less Two Dollars (\$2.00) to be  
33 retained by the tax collector, shall be remitted to the State Tax  
34 Commission within seven (7) days of the date that the application  
35 is made. The portion of the additional fee retained by the tax  
36 collector shall be deposited into the county general fund.

37           (d) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees  
38 that it receives under this subsection into the State Treasury on  
39 the day received. At the end of each month, the State Tax  
40 Commission shall certify the total fees collected under this  
41 section to the State Treasurer who shall distribute such  
42 collections as follows:

43           (i) Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of the additional  
44 fees collected from each distinctive license tag issued under this  
45 subsection shall be distributed to the World War II Veterans  
46 Memorial in Washington, D.C. However, when the amounts  
47 distributed to the World War II Veterans Memorial reaches an  
48 aggregate amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00),  
49 then Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of such additional fees shall be  
50 deposited into the State General Fund.

51           (ii) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee  
52 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this  
53 section shall be deposited into the Mississippi Fire Fighter's  
54 Memorial Burn Center Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

55           (iii) Twenty-two Dollars (\$22.00) of each  
56 additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued  
57 pursuant to this section shall be deposited to the credit of the  
58 State Highway Fund to be expended solely for the repair,  
59 maintenance, construction or reconstruction of highways.

60           (2) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as  
61 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under

62 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the  
63 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under  
64 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license  
65 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,  
66 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license  
67 tag.

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

78 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
79 and after July 1, 2001.