

By: Representative Morris

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 640

1 AN ACT TO CREATE A NEW CODE SECTION 27-19-56.32, MISSISSIPPI
 2 CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE LICENSE
 3 TAGS TO MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF DELTA SIGMA THETA
 4 SORORITY; TO PROVIDE THAT A PORTION OF THE FEES COLLECTED FOR SUCH
 5 DISTINCTIVE LICENSE TAGS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE
 6 MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, THE MISSISSIPPI
 7 FIRE FIGHTER'S MEMORIAL BURN CENTER FUND AND THE STATE HIGHWAY
 8 FUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section
 11 27-19-56.32, Mississippi Code of 1972:

12 27-19-56.32. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
 13 resident of this state and who is a member of Delta Sigma Theta
 14 Sorority, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad
 15 valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law for
 16 private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other
 17 noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional
 18 fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section,
 19 shall be issued a distinctive license tag for any motor vehicle
 20 registered in his name identifying such person as a member of such
 21 organization. The distinctive license tags so issued shall
 22 display the Greek letters of the organization, shall be of such
 23 color and design as the State Tax Commission 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 State Tax Commission. 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 State Tax Commission within seven (7)
32 days of the date the application is made. The portion of the
33 additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited
34 into the county general fund.

35 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
36 after July 1, 2001, any person applying for a distinctive license
37 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
38 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
39 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
40 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
41 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
42 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
43 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
44 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
45 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
46 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
47 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
48 collector.

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

55 (a) Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) of each additional fee
56 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
57 section shall be distributed to the Mississippi Chapter of Delta
58 Sigma Theta Sorority.

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 Fire Fighter's Memorial Burn
62 Center Fund created pursuant 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 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
69 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
70 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
71 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
72 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
73 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
74 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
75 tag.

76 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
77 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
78 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
79 Section 27-19-37.

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