

By: Senator(s) Williamson, Harvey, Thames,
Dawkins, Hyde-Smith

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2558

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR
2 VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS FOR PERSONS SERVING AS CONSTABLES; TO PROVIDE
3 FOR A FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH TAGS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is serving
6 as a constable, upon payment of the road and bridge privilege
7 taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as prescribed by law
8 for private carriers of passengers, pickup trucks and other
9 noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of an additional
10 fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this section,
11 shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor vehicle
12 registered in his name identifying such person as a constable.
13 The distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
14 design as designated by the State Tax Commission, shall consist of
15 such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
16 distinguish each license tag; provided, however, that such tag
17 shall have the word "constable" on it and shall display the name
18 of the county in which the applicant serves as constable.

19 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
20 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
21 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for such
22 distinctive license tags shall present to the issuing official
23 proof that they are serving as a constable in the county. The
24 application and the additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of
25 this section, less three percent (3%) thereof to be retained by
26 the tax collector, shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission
27 on a monthly basis as prescribed by the commission. The portion

28 of the additional fee retained by the tax collector shall be
29 deposited into the county general fund.

30 (3) Any person applying for a distinctive license tag under
31 this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty-
32 five Dollars (\$35.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for
33 under this section which shall be in addition to all other taxes
34 and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time
35 to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag year.
36 The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original
37 application is made for a distinctive license tag under this
38 section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal
39 registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license
40 tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license
41 tag, or if the owner retires or resigns from or otherwise vacates
42 the office of constable, he must surrender it to the local county
43 tax collector.

44 (4) The State Tax Commission shall deposit all fees into the
45 State Treasury. At the end of each month, the State Tax
46 Commission shall certify the total fees collected under this
47 section from the issuance of distinctive license tags to the State
48 Treasurer who shall distribute such collections as follows:

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

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

58 (c) The remainder shall be deposited into the State
59 General Fund.

60 (5) 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 (6) 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, Mississippi Code of 1972. The fee for a
72 replacement distinctive license tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
73 The tax collector receiving such application and affidavit shall
74 be entitled to retain and deposit into the county general fund
75 five percent (5%) of the fee for such replacement license tag and
76 the remainder shall be distributed in the same manner as funds
77 from the sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under
78 this section.

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