

By: Representative Snowden

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 768

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 FOR MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE GUARD; TO AMEND SECTION
4 27-19-44, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO EXEMPT SUCH DISTINCTIVE
5 LICENSE TAGS FROM CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DISTINCTIVE TAGS
6 AUTHORIZED AFTER JULY 1, 2000; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
9 27-19-56.32, Mississippi Code of 1972:

10 27-19-56.32. (1) In recognition of their patriotic services
11 rendered the state and the citizens thereof, any owner of a motor
12 vehicle who is a member of the Mississippi State Guard established
13 under Section 33-5-51, upon application and payment of the road
14 and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees
15 as prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
16 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and subject to the
17 provisions of this section, shall be issued a distinctive license
18 tag for any motor vehicle registered in his name identifying the
19 person as a member of the Mississippi State Guard. The
20 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
21 design as the State Tax Commission, with the advice of the
22 Mississippi State Guard, may prescribe, shall bear the words
23 "Mississippi State Guard," and shall consist of such letters or
24 numbers, or both, as may be necessary to distinguish each license
25 tag.

26 (2) The distinctive license tags authorized in this section
27 shall be prepared by the State Tax Commission and shall be issued
28 through the tax collectors of the several counties of the state in
29 the same manner as are other motor vehicle license tags, and the



30 tax collectors shall be entitled to their regular fees for their
31 services. Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
32 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
33 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. Applicants for the
34 distinctive license tags shall present to the tax collector proof
35 of their membership in the Mississippi State Guard by means of a
36 certificate signed by the commanding officer of the applicant on
37 forms prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application
38 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission within seven (7)
39 days of the date the application is made.

40 (3) The distinctive license tags shall be used only upon and
41 for personally or jointly owned private passenger vehicles
42 (including station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup
43 trucks) registered in the name, or jointly in the name, of the
44 member making application therefor, and when so issued to the
45 applicant, shall be used upon the vehicle for which issued in lieu
46 of the standard license tag normally issued for the vehicle.

47 (4) The distinctive license tags issued under this section
48 shall not be transferable between motor vehicle owners. If the
49 owner of a vehicle bearing a distinctive license tag sells,
50 trades, exchanges or otherwise disposes of the vehicle, the tag
51 shall be retained by the owner to whom issued and returned by the
52 owner to the tax collector of the county.

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

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



63 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
64 Section 27-19-37.

65 **SECTION 2.** Section 27-19-44, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
66 amended as follows:

67 27-19-44. (1) Except for distinctive license plates issued
68 under Section 27-19-56.32, for any distinctive license tag or
69 plate authorized by the Legislature from and after July 1, 2000,
70 the requirements of this section must be met before the State Tax
71 Commission may prepare or issue any such license tag or plate.
72 The organization or other entity for which the Legislature
73 authorized the distinctive license tag or plate must submit proof
74 satisfactory to the State Tax Commission that at least one hundred
75 (100) of such license tags or plates will be purchased and must
76 deposit with the commission an amount necessary to purchase one
77 hundred (100) of such license tags or plates. The organization or
78 other entity for which the Legislature authorized the distinctive
79 license tag or plate must satisfy the requirements of this
80 subsection (1) within two (2) years after the effective date of
81 the law authorizing the license tag or plate in order to permit
82 the license tag or plate to be prepared and issued.

83 (2) If the organization or other entity for which the
84 Legislature authorized the distinctive license tag or plate meets
85 the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, the State Tax
86 Commission shall prepare and issue the distinctive license tag or
87 plate. If the State Tax Commission prepares and issues a
88 distinctive license tag or plate for the organization or other
89 entity, the commission shall review the number of such license
90 tags or plates issued during the period for the license tag or
91 plate series. If the number of distinctive license tags or plates
92 falls below one hundred (100) in the last year of the series, the
93 license tag or plate shall be discontinued at the end of the
94 period for the series.



95 (3) If a distinctive license tag or plate is discontinued
96 under subsection (2) of this section, the organization or other
97 entity for which the license tag or plate was discontinued may
98 prepare a distinctive license tag or plate decal. The distinctive
99 license tag or plate decal shall be of such size, color and design
100 as may be agreed upon by the organization or other entity and the
101 State Tax Commission. However, the State Tax Commission shall
102 have final approval of the size, color and design of the decal.
103 The distinctive license tag or plate decals shall be prepared and
104 sold by the organization or other entity, and the proceeds derived
105 from the sale of such decals shall be retained by the organization
106 or other entity for any use deemed appropriate by the organization
107 or other entity.

108 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
109 and after July 1, 2002.

