

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Gollott, Dawkins,
Cuevas, Lee

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2440

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL "STOP CHILD
2 ABUSE" MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAG; TO PROVIDE THAT A PORTION OF THE
3 ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SUCH TAG SHALL BE DISBURSED TO THE COUNTY
4 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES OFFICE
5 OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE TAG WAS PURCHASED TO ASSIST IN
6 DEFRAYING THE COST OF PROGRAMS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle who is a
9 resident of this state, upon payment of the road and bridge
10 privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes and registration fees as
11 prescribed by law for private carriers of passengers, pickup
12 trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles, and upon payment of
13 an additional fee in the amount provided in subsection (3) of this
14 section, shall be issued a distinctive license tag for each motor
15 vehicle registered in his name, which shall be produced in such
16 color and design as may be agreed upon by Pati Bannister and the
17 State Tax Commission. The words "Stop Child Abuse" shall be
18 centered at the bottom of the license tag. The State Tax
19 Commission shall prescribe such letters or numbers, or both, as
20 may be necessary to distinguish each license tag.

21 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
22 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
23 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
24 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
25 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,
26 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis
27 as prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional
28 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the
29 county general fund.



30 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
31 after July 1, 2003, any person applying for a distinctive license
32 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
33 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
34 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
35 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
36 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
37 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
38 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
39 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
40 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
41 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
42 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
43 collector.

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

50 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
51 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
52 section shall be distributed to the board of supervisors of the
53 county in which the tag was purchased. The board of supervisors
54 shall distribute such fees to the Department of Human Services,
55 Division of Family and Child Services office of the county to
56 assist in defraying the cost of the programs of such office.

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

61 (c) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
62 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this



63 section shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund
64 to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
65 reconstruction of highways.

66 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
67 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
68 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
69 27-19-44.2.

70 (5) A regular license tag must be properly displayed as
71 required by law until replaced by a distinctive license tag under
72 this section. The regular license tag must be surrendered to the
73 tax collector upon issuance of the distinctive license tag under
74 this section. The tax collector shall issue up to two (2) license
75 decals for each distinctive license tag issued under this section,
76 which will expire the same month and year as the regular license
77 tag.

78 (6) In the case of loss or theft of a distinctive license
79 tag issued under this section, the owner may make application and
80 affidavit for a replacement distinctive license tag as provided by
81 Section 27-19-37. The fee for a replacement distinctive license
82 tag shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00). The tax collector receiving
83 such application and affidavit shall be entitled to retain and
84 deposit into the county general fund five percent (5%) of the fee
85 for such replacement license tag and the remainder shall be
86 distributed in the same manner as funds from the sale of regular
87 distinctive license tags issued under this section.

88 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
89 and after July 1, 2003.

