

By: Representatives Smith (59th), Turner

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1206

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE MOTOR VEHICLE
2 LICENSE TAGS TO SUPPORT TEACHERS; TO PRESCRIBE AN ADDITIONAL FEE
3 FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH LICENSE TAGS; TO PROVIDE THAT MONIES
4 COLLECTED FROM THE ADDITIONAL FEES SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE
5 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AMONG ALL THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS
6 IN THE STATE AND EXPENDED FOR TEACHERS' CLASSROOM SUPPLIES; AND
7 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle, who is a
10 resident of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws
11 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and upon
12 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
13 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
14 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
15 and upon payment of an additional annual fee in the amount
16 provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a
17 special license tag for each motor vehicle registered in his name
18 identifying such person as a supporter of teachers. The
19 distinctive license tags so issued shall be of such color and
20 design as the State Tax Commission, with the advice of the
21 Mississippi Department of Education, may prescribe, shall have
22 imprinted thereon the words "SUPPORT TEACHERS" and shall consist
23 of such letters or numbers, or both, as may be necessary to
24 distinguish each license tag.

25 (2) Application for the distinctive license tags authorized
26 by this section shall be made to the county tax collector on forms
27 prescribed by the State Tax Commission. The application and the
28 additional fee imposed under subsection (3) of this section, less
29 Two Dollars (\$2.00) thereof to be retained by the tax collector,

30 shall be remitted to the State Tax Commission on a monthly basis
31 as prescribed by the commission. The portion of the additional
32 fee retained by the tax collector shall be deposited into the
33 county general fund.

34 (3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or
35 after July 1, 2005, any person applying for a distinctive license
36 tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount
37 of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag
38 applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all
39 other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a
40 period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established
41 license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the
42 time the original application is made for a distinctive license
43 tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of
44 renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive
45 license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive
46 license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax
47 collector.

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

54 (a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee
55 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
56 section shall be disbursed to the Mississippi Department of
57 Education and shall be equitably distributed by the department
58 among all of the school districts in the state for expenditure on
59 teachers' classroom supplies.

60 (b) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
61 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall

62 be deposited into the Mississippi Fire Fighters Memorial Burn
63 Center Fund created pursuant to Section 7-9-70.

64 (c) Two Dollars (\$2.00) of each additional fee
65 collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this
66 section shall be deposited to the credit of the State Highway Fund
67 to be expended solely for the repair, maintenance, construction or
68 reconstruction of highways.

69 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
70 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
71 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
72 27-19-44.2.

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

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

91 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
92 and after July 1, 2005.