

By: Senator(s) Huggins

To: Finance

SENATE BILL NO. 2779

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 27-19-155, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO GRANT A PREFERENCE FOR AWARDED CONTRACT FOR MANUFACTURE OF  
3 STATE TAGS TO MISSISSIPPI PRISON INDUSTRIES IF THE BID IS  
4 COMPETITIVE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 27-19-155, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:

8 27-19-155. The license or number tag herein provided for  
9 shall be purchased by the License Tag Commission, composed of the  
10 Governor, Commissioner of Revenue, Attorney General, and the State  
11 Treasurer, upon competitive bids, after having given three (3)  
12 weeks' notice of the time and place of purchase, by publishing  
13 said notice in at least three (3) newspapers, at least one (1) of  
14 which shall be published in the State of Mississippi, for a period  
15 of three (3) weeks prior to the date of purchase. If the  
16 nonprofit corporation created under the Mississippi Prison  
17 Industries Act of 1990 submits a competitive bid that is not  
18 greater than ten percent (10%) above the lowest and best bid, then  
19 the contract shall be awarded to that nonprofit corporation for an  
20 initial term of three (3) years. The successful bidder shall  
21 enter into a bond with some surety company, authorized to do  
22 business in the state, as surety thereon, payable to the State of  
23 Mississippi, in a sum equal to the amount of his contract,  
24 conditioned for the faithful and prompt carrying out of the bid,  
25 and, in the event of the failure to comply with the terms of the  
26 contract, the amount of the bond shall be forfeited as liquidated  
27 damages and may be recovered by the Attorney General in any  
28 appropriate action. The License Tag Commission is hereby

29 authorized and empowered to renegotiate any contract entered into  
30 for the purchase of license tags in order to obtain any other or  
31 additional tags necessitated by the passage of this article.

32 All license tags and numbered plates purchased under the  
33 provisions of this article, shall be paid for pursuant to an  
34 appropriation to be made for such purposes. All monies received  
35 by the State Tax Commission as registration or tag fees, either  
36 from the tax collectors, or from licenses issued by the State Tax  
37 Commission, shall be paid into the State Treasury on the same day  
38 in which such funds are collected by the State Tax Commission.

39 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
40 and after its passage.