

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION 2006

By: Representative Martinson

To: Ways and Means

HOUSE BILL NO. 1188

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF DISTINCTIVE ANTI-THEFT
2 MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS AND DECALS; TO PRESCRIBE AN ADDITIONAL
3 FEE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH LICENSE TAGS; TO PRESCRIBE THE MANNER
4 IN WHICH PROCEEDS FROM THE ADDITIONAL FEE SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED;
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** (1) Any owner of a motor vehicle, who is a
8 resident of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws
9 relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and upon
10 payment of the road and bridge privilege taxes, ad valorem taxes
11 and registration fees as prescribed by law for private carriers of
12 passengers, pickup trucks and other noncommercial motor vehicles,
13 and upon payment of an additional annual fee in the amount
14 provided in subsection (3) of this section, shall be issued a
15 special license tag for each motor vehicle registered in his name
16 designed to discourage the theft of motor vehicles and to assist
17 law enforcement officers in identifying and recovering stolen
18 motor vehicles. Each distinctive license tag shall display in
19 bold letters across the face of the tag the word "ANTI-THEFT",
20 shall be of such color and design as the State Tax Commission may
21 prescribe, shall consist of such letters or numbers, or both, as
22 may be necessary to distinguish each license tag and shall include
23 the county of registration. Purchasers of the distinctive tag
24 shall also be issued a special decal designed by the commission
25 for placement upon the left rear bumper of the vehicle. Each
26 decal shall contain letters, symbols or abbreviations created by
27 the commission to identify the owner of the vehicle. Failure of



an owner to place the decal on the bumper of the vehicle shall not be unlawful or constitute a violation of law.

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

(3) Beginning with any registration year commencing on or after July 1, 2006, any person applying for a distinctive license tag under this section shall pay an additional fee in the amount of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) for each distinctive license tag applied for under this section, which shall be in addition to all other taxes and fees. The additional fee paid shall be for a period of time to run concurrent with the vehicle's established license tag year. The additional fee is due and payable at the time the original application is made for a distinctive license tag under this section and thereafter annually at the time of renewal registration as long as the owner retains the distinctive license tag. If the owner does not wish to retain the distinctive license tag, he must surrender it to the local county tax collector.

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

(a) Twenty-four Dollars (\$24.00) of each additional fee collected on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this

61 section shall be disbursed equally between the Mississippi
62 Sheriffs Association and the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of
63 Police.

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

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

73 (d) One Dollar (\$1.00) of each additional fee collected
74 on distinctive license tags issued pursuant to this section shall
75 be deposited to the credit of the special fund created in Section
76 27-19-44.2.

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

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

93 sale of regular distinctive license tags issued under this
94 section.

95 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
96 and after July 1, 2006.