

Senate Bill 372

By: Senators Fort of the 39th, Scott of the 36th, Brown of the 26th and James of the 35th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions relative to motor vehicles and traffic, so as to require policies that prohibit
3 law enforcement officers from impermissibly using race or ethnicity in determining whether
4 to stop a motorist; to require annual training of law enforcement officers on impermissible
5 uses of race and ethnicity in stopping vehicles; to require law enforcement officers to
6 document the race, ethnicity, and gender of a motorist and passengers; to provide for
7 applicability; to provide for other matters relative thereto; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
8 other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

11 Chapter 1 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
12 provisions relative to motor vehicles and traffic, is amended by inserting at the end thereof
13 a new Code Section 40-1-8 to read as follows:

14 "40-1-8.

15 Law enforcement officers shall not use a person's race or ethnicity to form probable cause
16 or reasonable suspension to stop a vehicle but may use a person's race or ethnicity to
17 confirm a previously obtained description of a suspect.

18 (1) Each state and local law enforcement agency shall adopt a policy and implement an
19 annual training program regarding racial profiling that provides and instructs that a law
20 enforcement officer shall not use a person's race or ethnicity to form probable cause or
21 reasonable suspicion to stop a vehicle but may use a person's race or ethnicity to confirm
22 a previously obtained description of a suspect.

23 (2) Each time a state or local law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle, that officer
24 shall document the following information in a public record whose format shall be
25 determined by the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety:

26 (A) The gender, race, and ethnicity of the driver;

27 (B) The alleged violation that led to the stop;

1 (C) Whether the vehicle, personal effects, driver, or any passenger was searched and,
2 if any passenger or his or her effects are searched, the passenger's gender, race, and
3 ethnicity;

4 (D) Whether a search was conducted pursuant to consent, probable cause, or
5 reasonable suspicion to suspect a crime, including the approximate duration of the
6 search and the basis for the request for consent or the circumstances establishing
7 probable cause or reasonable suspicion;

8 (E) Whether contraband was found, the type and approximate amount of contraband,
9 and whether contraband was seized;

10 (F) Whether any arrest, citation, or any oral or written warning was issued as a result
11 of the stop;

12 (G) Whether the officer making the stop encountered any physical resistance, whether
13 the officer engaged in the use of force, and whether injuries resulted; and

14 (H) Whether the circumstances surrounding the stop were the subject of any
15 investigation and the results of that investigation.

16 (3) Law enforcement agencies and the Attorney General may review the data required
17 to be collected under paragraph (4) of this Code section to determine whether members
18 of minority groups are disproportionately stopped, searched, warned, or arrested and may
19 take appropriate remedial action.

20 (4) The provisions of paragraphs (1) through (3) of this Code section shall not apply to
21 any law enforcement agency which, as of January 1, 2001, is either certified or accredited
22 by the Georgia State Certification Program or the Commission on Accreditation of Law
23 Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

24 (5) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to alter the requirements for
25 determining probable cause or reasonable suspicion under the Constitution of the United
26 States or the Constitution of the State of Georgia."

27 **SECTION 2.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.