

House Bill 436

By: Representatives Benfield of the 56th, Post 1, Drenner of the 57th, Teper of the 42nd, Post 1, Porter of the 119th, Henson of the 55th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-2-76 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 alternative fueled vehicle license plates, so as to add hybrid vehicles to the definition of
3 alternative fueled vehicles; to amend Code Section 32-9-4 of the Official Code of Georgia
4 Annotated, relating to designation of travel lanes and use of such lanes, so as to provide for
5 the authorization of hybrid vehicles to use designated travel lanes; to provide for related
6 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 40-2-76 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to alternative
10 fueled vehicle license plates, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting in its place
11 the following:

12 "(a) As used in this Code section, the term:

13 (1) 'Alternative fuel' means methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols; mixtures
14 containing 85 percent or more or such other percentage, but not less than 70 percent, as
15 determined by the United States secretary of energy, by rule as it existed on January 1,
16 1997, to provide for requirements relating to cold start, safety, or vehicle functions, by
17 volume of methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols with gasoline or other fuels;
18 natural gas; liquefied petroleum gas; hydrogen; coal derived liquid fuels; fuels other than
19 alcohol derived from biological materials; electricity including electricity from solar
20 energy; and any other fuel the United States secretary of energy determined by rule as it
21 existed on January 1, 1997, is substantially not petroleum and would yield substantial
22 energy security benefits and substantial environmental benefits.

23 (2) 'Alternative fueled vehicle' means any vehicle fueled by alternative fuel as defined
24 in paragraph (1) of this subsection, or a hybrid vehicle, which draws propulsion energy
25 from onboard sources of stored energy which are both an internal combustion or heat
26 engine using combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy storage system."

1 **SECTION 2.**

2 Code Section 32-9-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to designation of
3 travel lanes and use of such lanes, is amended by adding a new subsection (a.1) to read as
4 follows:

5 "(a.1) The department shall authorize hybrid vehicles, as defined in Code Section 40-2-76,
6 to use the travel lanes designated for such vehicles as provided in paragraph (4) of
7 subsection (a) of this Code section."

8 **SECTION 3**

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