

House Bill 575

By: Representatives Powell of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Parham of the 94<sup>th</sup> and Rice of the 64<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 registration of motor vehicles, so as to provide for the extension of time during which  
3 temporary registrations may be used; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

6 Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration of  
7 motor vehicles, is amended by striking division (b)(2)(B)(i) of Code Section 40-2-8, relating  
8 to the operation of unregistered vehicles, and inserting in lieu thereof a new division (i) to  
9 read as follows:

10 "(B)(i) Any dealer of new or used motor vehicles shall issue to the purchaser of a  
11 vehicle at the time of sale thereof, unless at such time the purchaser makes application  
12 to transfer to such vehicle in accordance with this chapter a valid license plate issued  
13 to him or her or unless such vehicle is to be registered under the International  
14 Registration Plan, a temporary plate which may bear the dealer's name and location  
15 and shall bear, in characters not less than one-quarter of an inch wide and one and  
16 one-half inches high, the expiration date of the period within which the purchaser is  
17 required by Code Section 40-2-20 to register such vehicle. Such temporary plates  
18 shall be made of heavy stock paper, inscribed with indelible ink, and designed to  
19 resist deterioration or fading due to exposure to the elements during the period for  
20 which display is required. The expiration date may be handprinted on the plate at the  
21 time of issuance by use of an indelible ink marker, with contrasting ink, provided that  
22 the month of expiration shall be indicated by complete word or by three-letter  
23 abbreviation thereof. The expiration date of such a temporary plate ~~may~~ shall be  
24 revised and extended by the county tag agent only if an extension of the purchaser's  
25 initial registration period has been granted as provided by Code Section 40-2-20. Such  
26 temporary plate shall not resemble a license plate issued by this state and shall be

1 issued without charge or fee therefor. Such temporary plate shall be surrendered to the  
2 tag agent at the time the vehicle is registered, and the tag agent shall destroy such  
3 temporary plate. The requirements of this subparagraph do not apply to a dealer  
4 whose primary business is the sale of salvage motor vehicles and other vehicles on  
5 which total loss claims have been paid by insurers."

## 6 SECTION 2.

7 Said chapter is further amended by striking division (a)(1)(B)(i) of Code Section 40-2-20,  
8 relating to registration and license requirements, and inserting in lieu thereof a new division  
9 (i) to read as follows:

10 "(B)(i) The purchaser or other transferee owner of every new or used motor vehicle,  
11 including tractors and motorcycles, or trailer shall, within the initial registration  
12 period of such vehicle, register such vehicle as provided in this chapter and obtain or  
13 transfer as provided in this chapter a license to operate it for the period remaining  
14 until such person's next registration period which immediately follows such initial  
15 registration period, without regard to whether such next registration period occurs in  
16 the same calendar year as the initial registration period or how soon such next  
17 registration period follows the initial registration period; provided, however, that this  
18 registration and licensing requirement does not apply to a dealer which acquires a new  
19 or used motor vehicle and holds it for resale. The commissioner ~~may~~ shall provide by  
20 rule or regulation for one 30 day extension of such initial registration period which  
21 ~~may~~ shall be granted by the county tag agent to a purchaser or other transferee owner  
22 if the transferor has not provided such purchaser or other transferee owner with a title  
23 to the motor vehicle more than five business days prior to the expiration of such initial  
24 registration period."

## 25 SECTION 3.

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