

House Bill 630

By: Representatives White of the 3rd, Post 2, Smith of the 129th, Post 2, Westmoreland of the 86th, Keen of the 146th, Boggs of the 145th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, so as to
3 provide for special and distinctive Choose Life, Inc. license plates; to provide for issuance,
4 renewal, fees, licensing agreements, applications, transfers, and disposition of funds relative
5 to such license plates; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, is amended by
11 adding a new Code Section 40-2-86.9 to read as follows:

12 "40-2-86.9.

13 (a) The commissioner, in cooperation with Choose Life, Inc. shall design a special license
14 plate to be issued displaying the Choose Life, Inc. logo. The words 'Georgia on My Mind'
15 must appear at the top of the license plate and the words 'Choose Life' must appear at the
16 bottom. The Choose Life, Inc. license plates must be of the same size as general issue
17 motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number,
18 whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six. It shall not be a requirement
19 that a county name decal shall be fixed and displayed on license plates issued under this
20 Code section.

21 (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Code section, this Code section shall
22 not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing
23 agreement or otherwise, received such licenses or other permissions as may be required to
24 implement this Code section. The design of the initial edition of the Choose Life, Inc.
25 license plates, as well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or
26 parts of the designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the

1 State of Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the
2 commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice
3 of and protect such right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall
4 be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this
5 subsection as a matter of law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design
6 or designs, except as authorized by the commissioner.

7 (c) Beginning in calendar year 2004, any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor
8 vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon
9 complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor
10 vehicles and upon the payment of a fee of \$25.00 in addition to the regular motor vehicle
11 registration fee, shall be issued a Choose Life, Inc. license plate. Special license plates
12 issued under this Code section shall be renewed annually with a revalidation decal as
13 provided in Code Section 40-2-31 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual
14 registration fee, which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of
15 collection of other registration fees and remitted to the state as provided in Code Section
16 40-2-34.

17 (d) An applicant may request a Choose Life, Inc. license plate any time during the
18 applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current valid license
19 plate, the Choose Life, Inc. license plate shall be issued with appropriate decals attached.

20 (e) Choose Life, Inc. license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to another vehicle
21 in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-42.

22 (f) Choose Life, Inc. license plates shall be issued within 30 days of application."

23

SECTION 2.

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