

House Bill 257

By: Representatives Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Murphy of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, and Bruce of the 64<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-8-76.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 use of seat safety belts in passenger vehicles, so as to increase the fine for committing the  
3 offense of failure to wear a seat safety belt; to provide for applicability; to provide an  
4 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Code Section 40-8-76.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the use of seat  
8 safety belts in passenger vehicles, is amended by striking in its entirety paragraph (2) of  
9 subsection (e) and inserting in its place the following:

10 "(2) A person failing to comply with the requirements of subsection (b) of this Code  
11 section shall be guilty of the offense of failure to wear a seat safety belt and, upon  
12 conviction thereof, may be fined not more than ~~\$15.00~~ \$50.00; but, the provisions of  
13 Chapter 11 of Title 17 and any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the  
14 costs of such prosecution shall not be taxed nor shall any additional penalty, fee, or  
15 surcharge to a fine for such offense be assessed against a person for conviction thereof.  
16 The court imposing such fine shall forward a record of the disposition of the case of  
17 failure to wear a seat safety belt to the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety."

18 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

19 This Act shall not apply to any offense committed before July 1, 2005. Any such offense  
20 shall be punishable as provided by the statute in effect at the time the offense was committed.

21 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 3.**

22 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2005.

1

**SECTION 4.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.