

The House Committee on Motor Vehicles offers the following substitute to SB 168:

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 special license plates for certain persons and vehicles, so as to refine the method
3 for administrative issuance of special license plates; to provide for allowing spouses of
4 Medal of Honor winners to retain the special license plate; to restate conditions for issuance
5 of disabled persons' license plates and decals; to create license plates for motorcycles
6 honoring a recipient of the Purple Heart, honoring police officers wounded in the line of
7 duty, commemorating the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, honoring emergency
8 medical services personnel, promoting historic preservation efforts, and identifying licensed
9 Georgia physicians; to add an inscription on license plates for veterans awarded the Purple
10 Heart; to provide for special license plates bearing the National Association for Stock Car
11 Auto Racing (NASCAR) logo and promoting specific drivers or general motorsports; to
12 provide for special license plates to promote 'Share the Road' messages for motorists and
13 bicyclists and to benefit programs related to such motorists and bicyclists; to support the
14 Governor's Highway Safety Program; to provide for issuance, renewal, fees, licensing
15 agreements, applications, transfers, and disposition of funds relative to such license plates;
16 to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and
17 for other purposes.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

19 **SECTION 1.**

20 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
21 special license plates for certain persons and vehicles, is amended by striking Code Section
22 40-2-60.1, relating to administrative issuance of special license plates, and inserting in its
23 place a new Code section to read as follows:

24 "40-2-60.1.

25 (a) The General Assembly finds that during recent years prior to and including ~~1997~~ 2005
26 there have been proposed and enacted numerous laws providing for the issuance of special

1 license plates for certain persons and vehicles. The General Assembly finds that there
2 exists a need for a standardized administrative process to provide for the authorization of
3 issuance of such special license plates and that the public interest will be best served by
4 such a standardized administrative process. While recognizing that the legislature may not
5 abridge its powers, the General Assembly declares that it is in the public interest of this
6 state for future proposals for special license plates to be governed by the administrative
7 process established by this Code section rather than by the legislative process, except in
8 any case where resulting revenue is to be directed to any recipient other than the general
9 fund of the state treasury in which instance the legislative process shall be followed.

10 (b)(1) The commissioner is authorized to adopt rules and regulations for the issuance of
11 special license plates for groups of individuals and vehicles. Such rules and regulations
12 shall provide that no such special license plate shall be issued except upon the application
13 of at least ~~1,000~~ 250 persons. The rules and regulations shall provide for the manner of
14 such applications. The rules and regulations shall provide that upon receipt of the
15 requisite number of applications, a special license plate may be issued as provided in this
16 Code section. All special license plates shall have an application period of two years after
17 the receipt of the initial application for the payment of the manufacturing fee. After such
18 time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department shall not be
19 required to continue to accept the manufacturing fee for that special license plate.

20 (2) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture any special license
21 plate when the number of active registrations falls below 150 registrations at any time
22 during the period provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. Current
23 registrants may continue to renew such special license plate during their annual
24 registration period. The department may continue to issue such special license plates that
25 it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the minimum number of registrations. If the
26 special license plate falls below 150 active registrations at any time during the period
27 provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31, the organization sponsoring the
28 special license plate shall be required again to obtain 250 applications accompanied by
29 the manufacturing fee.

30 (3) The rules and regulations may provide for exceptions whereby a special plate will not
31 be issued if the issuance of the plate would adversely affect public safety. The rules and
32 regulations shall provide for the design and manufacture of such special license plates
33 and shall provide that such plates shall be readily recognizable as Georgia license plates
34 through the adoption of a standard design containing a smaller space for the insertion of
35 an appropriate logo or graphic identifying the special nature of the license plate. The logo
36 or graphic shall be no larger than three inches by three inches and shall be placed to the
37 left of the alphanumeric characters. The department shall not utilize any graphic that is

1 copyrighted unless a sponsoring organization has secured for the state the authority to
 2 utilize the copyrighted design at no cost to the state and the sponsoring organization has
 3 agreed to hold the state harmless against any related claim of copyright violation or
 4 infringement. Subject to the foregoing provisions of this ~~subsection~~ paragraph, the design
 5 of each special license plate shall be in the discretion of the commissioner.

6 (c) Any resident motor vehicle owner desiring a special license plate provided for in this
 7 Code section shall submit to the commissioner a completed application form for such plate
 8 with a \$25.00 manufacturing fee in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee.
 9 Upon complying with the motor vehicle registration and licensing laws and the rules and
 10 regulations authorized in this Code section, a resident motor vehicle owner shall be issued
 11 a special license plate if the issuance of such plate is otherwise authorized under this Code
 12 section.

13 (d) Special license plates issued under this Code section shall be renewed annually with
 14 a revalidation decal, as provided in Code Section 40-2-31, upon payment of an additional
 15 \$25.00 annual registration fee which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the
 16 time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided
 17 in Code Section 40-2-34. Special license plates issued under this Code section may be
 18 transferred between vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-80.

19 (e) ~~Nothing in this Code section shall affect~~ The commissioner shall have the discretion
 20 to apply the provisions of this Code section to any special license plate provided for by any
 21 other law in existence on or becoming effective on ~~May 1, 1997~~ January 1, 2006."

22 SECTION 2.

23 Said article is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 40-2-68, relating
 24 to special license plates for Medal of Honor winners, and inserting in its place the following:

25 "(a) Motor vehicle owners who have been awarded the Medal of Honor and who are
 26 residents of this state, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration
 27 and licensing of motor vehicles, shall be issued two distinctive personalized license plates
 28 free of charge. Such license plates shall be fastened to both the front and the rear of the
 29 vehicle. Such license plates shall be transferred to another vehicle as provided in Code
 30 Section 40-2-80. In the event of the death of the person who received the special license
 31 plates pursuant to this Code section, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating
 32 to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, his or her surviving spouse may retain the
 33 special license plates and continue to display such plates on the vehicle."

1 (c) Upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration, licensing, and
 2 payment of fees and upon submission of proof of disability as provided in subsection (a)
 3 ~~or (a.1)~~ of this Code section, as applicable:

4 (1) Any resident person who is the joint owner of a motor vehicle with a disabled person
 5 as prescribed in this Code section shall be authorized to obtain such specialized plates for
 6 such jointly owned vehicle; and

7 (2) Any resident motor vehicle owner who is the spouse, parent, or legal guardian of a
 8 person who is disabled as prescribed in this Code section shall be authorized to obtain
 9 such specialized plates for such vehicle.

10 Upon the death of the disabled person or if the joint ownership of such vehicle ceases for
 11 any reason, the specialized license plate shall be canceled and the owner of such motor
 12 vehicle shall be issued a regular license plate for such vehicle.

13 (d) The commissioner is directed to furnish such license plates as provided for in this Code
 14 section, which shall bear the official international wheelchair symbol or a reasonable
 15 facsimile thereof, or such other symbols as the commissioner may deem appropriate.

16 (e) ~~The commissioner may begin issuing disabled persons' license plates with the year~~
 17 ~~1976.~~ Any license plate issued pursuant to the provisions of this Code section shall be
 18 transferred to another vehicle as provided in Code Section 40-2-80.

19 (f) Any person who is not a disabled person as prescribed in this Code section or a person
 20 otherwise entitled to obtain such special license plates and who willfully and falsely
 21 represents himself or herself as having the qualifications to obtain the special plates
 22 prescribed by this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

23 ~~(f.1)~~(g) Any practitioner of the healing arts who knowingly and willfully makes a false or
 24 misleading statement in his or her affidavit stating that an applicant is a disabled person as
 25 prescribed in this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

26 ~~(g)~~(h) Any person owning a vehicle bearing the special plates and not entitled to do so
 27 under this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

28 SECTION 4.

29 Said article is further amended by inserting a new Code Section 40-2-74.1 immediately
 30 following Code Section 40-2-74, relating to special license plates for persons with
 31 disabilities, to read as follows:

32 "40-2-74.1.

33 (a) Any person meeting the requirements for a disabled person's license plate as provided
 34 for in Code Section 40-2-74 may obtain a special decal to be placed on any vehicle owned
 35 by such person in lieu of a disabled person's license plate. The cost of the decal shall be
 36 \$5.00 and the county tag agent is authorized to retain a \$1.00 processing fee.

1 (b)(1) The commissioner shall design a special disabled person's decal to be placed on
2 the rear windshield of a private passenger vehicle.

3 (2) The special disabled person's decal shall be so constructed that it will adhere to the
4 inside of the rear window of the vehicle and when removed will self-destruct.

5 (3) The special disabled person's decal shall have a place to write the month and year of
6 expiration and shall expire at the end of the month in the fourth year from the date of
7 issue.

8 (4) The decal shall be placed in the bottom left of the rear window so not to obscure the
9 view of the driver to indicate that the owner has met the requirements to park in a parking
10 space designated for a disabled person as provided for in Part 2 of Article 10 of Chapter
11 6 of this title.

12 (c) Any person who is not a disabled person as prescribed in Code Section 40-2-74 and
13 who willfully and falsely represents himself or herself as having the qualifications to obtain
14 a special disabled person's decal shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

15 (d) Any person who acquires a special disabled person's decal who is not entitled to do so
16 under this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

17 SECTION 5.

18 Said article is further amended by striking Code Section 40-2-84, relating to license plates
19 for veterans awarded the Purple Heart, and inserting in its place the following:

20 "40-2-84.

21 (a) Motor vehicle or ~~boat trailer~~ motorcycle owners who are veterans of the armed forces
22 of the United States who have been awarded the Purple Heart citation shall be eligible to
23 receive a special and distinctive vehicle license plate for a private passenger car,
24 motorcycle, or truck used for personal transportation ~~or for a boat trailer~~, provided that the
25 requisite number of applications are received by the commissioner as provided in
26 subsection (b) of this Code section. Such license plate shall be issued in compliance with
27 the state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as
28 prescribed in Article 2 of this chapter.

29 (b) A veteran who qualifies for the special and distinctive license plate pursuant to
30 subsection (a) of this Code section shall make application therefor with the commissioner
31 and include the requisite fee. Said applicant may apply for and be limited to not more than
32 one free license plate at a time; provided, however, that upon payment of the regular
33 license fee provided for in Code Section 40-2-151 and payment of the manufacturing fee
34 provided for in this Code section, a veteran may obtain an additional such license plate.
35 The commissioner shall retain all applications received for such special and distinctive
36 license plate until a minimum of 250 applications have been received. After receipt of 250

1 applications for such distinctive license plate, the commissioner shall design a distinctive
 2 license plate as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section and issue the distinctive
 3 license plates to present and future qualifying applicants. If the commissioner does not
 4 receive the required minimum 250 applications no later than July 31 of the year preceding
 5 the year of issuance of such plates, the commissioner shall not accept any applications for
 6 nor issue such distinctive license plates and all fees shall be refunded to applicants. The
 7 commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to enforce
 8 compliance with all state license laws relating to the use and operation of private passenger
 9 cars, motorcycles, and trucks ~~and boat trailers~~ before issuing these license plates in lieu of
 10 the regular Georgia license plates. The manufacturing fee for each additional special and
 11 distinctive license plate shall be \$25.00. The commissioner is specifically authorized to
 12 promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to ensure compliance in instances where
 13 such vehicles have been transferred or sold. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this
 14 Code section, such plates shall be nontransferable.

15 (c) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates shall be as prescribed in Article 2 of
 16 this chapter for private passenger cars, motorcycles, or trucks used for personal
 17 transportation ~~or for boat trailers~~. Additional words or symbols, in addition to the numbers
 18 and letters prescribed by law, shall be inscribed upon such license plates so as to identify
 19 distinctively the owner as a Purple Heart recipient. For any redesigned plates issued on or
 20 after January 1, 2006, such inscription shall include the designation 'Combat Wounded.'

21 (d) The license plate issued pursuant to this Code section shall be transferred between
 22 vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-80. The spouse of a deceased veteran of the
 23 armed forces of the United States who was awarded the Purple Heart citation shall continue
 24 to be eligible to be issued a distinctive personalized license plate as provided in this Code
 25 section for any vehicle owned by such veteran ownership of which is transferred to the
 26 surviving spouse or for any other vehicle owned by such surviving spouse either at the time
 27 of the qualifying veteran's death or acquired thereafter, so long as such person does not
 28 remarry.

29 (e) For each additional special license plate issued under this Code section there shall be
 30 an additional \$25.00 annual registration fee which fee shall be collected by the county tag
 31 agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state
 32 as provided in Code Section 40-2-34."

33 SECTION 6.

34 Said article is further amended by adding new Code Sections 40-2-86.10 through 40-2-86.15
 35 to read as follows:

1 "40-2-86.10.

2 (a) Motor vehicle owners who are or formerly were police officers who were wounded in
3 the line of duty as a police officer shall be eligible to receive a special and distinctive
4 vehicle license plate for a private passenger car or truck used for personal transportation,
5 provided that the requisite number of applications are received by the commissioner as
6 provided in subsection (b) of this Code section. Such license plate shall be issued in
7 compliance with the state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor
8 vehicles as prescribed in Article 2 of this chapter. The commissioner shall be authorized
9 to promulgate rules and regulations to determine the eligibility of such persons for such
10 special and distinctive license plates.

11 (b) A person who qualifies for the special and distinctive license plate pursuant to
12 subsection (a) of this Code section shall make application therefor with the commissioner
13 and include the requisite fee. Said applicant, upon payment of the regular license fee
14 provided for in Code Section 40-2-151 and payment of the manufacturing fee provided for
15 in this Code section, may apply for and be limited to not more than one such special and
16 distinctive license plate. The commissioner shall retain all applications received for such
17 distinctive license plate until a minimum of 1,000 applications have been received. After
18 receipt of 1,000 applications for such distinctive license plate, the commissioner shall
19 design a distinctive license plate as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section and
20 issue the distinctive license plates to present and future qualifying applicants. The
21 distinctive license plate shall have an application period of two years after January 1, 2006,
22 for payment of the manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of
23 applications is not met, the department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee,
24 and all fees shall be refunded to applicants. The department shall not be required to
25 continue to manufacture the distinctive license plate if the number of active registrations
26 falls below 500 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of
27 Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may continue to renew such special license
28 plate during his or her annual registration period upon payment of an additional \$25.00
29 annual special tag fee which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of
30 collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code
31 Section 40-2-34. The department may continue to issue such special license plates that it
32 has in its inventory to assist in achieving the minimum number of registrations. If the
33 special license plate falls below 500 active registrations at any time during the period as
34 provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31, the department must receive 1,000
35 applications accompanied by the manufacturing fee to continue to manufacture the license
36 plate. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary
37 to enforce compliance with all state license laws relating to the use and operation of private

1 passenger cars and trucks and boat trailers before issuing these license plates in lieu of the
2 regular Georgia license plates. The manufacturing fee for each additional special and
3 distinctive license plate shall be \$25.00. The commissioner is specifically authorized to
4 promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to ensure compliance in instances where
5 such vehicles have been transferred or sold. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this
6 Code section, such plates shall be nontransferable.

7 (c) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates shall be as prescribed in Article 2 of
8 this chapter for private passenger cars or trucks used for personal transportation.
9 Additional words or symbols, in addition to the numbers and letters prescribed by law,
10 shall be inscribed upon such license plates so as to identify distinctively the owner as a
11 police officer who was wounded in the line of duty.

12 (d) The license plate issued pursuant to this Code section shall be transferred between
13 vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-80. The spouse of a person who qualifies for
14 such special and distinctive license plate under subsection (a) of this Code section shall
15 continue to be eligible to be issued a distinctive personalized license plate as provided in
16 this Code section for any vehicle owned by such person ownership of which is transferred
17 to the surviving spouse or for any other vehicle owned by such surviving spouse either at
18 the time of the qualifying person's death or acquired thereafter, so long as such person does
19 not remarry.

20 (e) For each special license plate issued under this Code section there shall be an
21 additional \$25.00 annual registration fee which fee shall be collected by the county tag
22 agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state
23 as provided in Code Section 40-2-34.

24 (f) For the purposes of this Code section, the term 'police officer' shall mean any law
25 enforcement officer charged with the duty of enforcing the criminal laws and ordinances
26 of this state, any other state, or the United States or of the counties or municipalities of this
27 state or any other state who is employed by and compensated by the United States, the
28 state, or any county or municipality of the state. The term shall include, but not be limited
29 to, municipal police, county police, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, wardens, guards, agents of the
30 Georgia Bureau of Investigation, members of the uniform division of the Department of
31 Public Safety, agents and investigators of the State Forestry Commission, conservation
32 rangers of the Department of Natural Resources, agents of the Department of Revenue,
33 agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, agents of the federal Drug Enforcement
34 Administration, and agents of the federal Secret Service.

1 40-2-86.11.

2 (a) There shall be issued beginning in 2006 special and distinctive vehicle license plates
3 commemorating the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks for its contributions to
4 Georgians through programs dedicated to our youth such as 'Hoop Shoot,' 'Soccer Shoot,'
5 'Drug Awareness and Prevention,' and youth scholarship contests; our veterans in local VA
6 hospitals; the Elks major state project, 'Elks Aidmore Children's Center,' a home for
7 disadvantaged youth of Georgia; and the many contributions made by local Elks lodges
8 across the state, subject to the conditions set forth in this Code section.

9 (b) The commissioner, in cooperation with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks,
10 shall design special distinctive license plates to commemorate the Benevolent and
11 Protective Order of Elks. The license plates must be of the same size as general issue
12 motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number,
13 whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six. No two recipients shall
14 receive identically numbered plates. The graphic on the special license plate shall be
15 placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be no larger than three inches by
16 three inches. Such design shall not provide space in which to indicate the name of the
17 county of issuance. The organization may request the assignment of the first of 100 in a
18 series of license plates upon payment of an additional initial registration fee of \$25.00 for
19 each license plate requested.

20 (c) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Code section, this Code section shall
21 not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing
22 agreement or otherwise and at no cost to the state, received such licenses or other
23 permissions as may be required for the use of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
24 logo or as may otherwise be necessary or appropriate to implement this Code section. No
25 royalty, license fee, or other moneys shall be paid to any organization or its licensor for the
26 use by the state of such logo or design on license plates authorized by this Code section.
27 The commissioner may charge fees, take other actions, and agree to or impose terms and
28 conditions which might normally be envisioned in licensing and cross-licensing agreements
29 for the use of designs and similar intellectual property. Without limitation, the
30 commissioner may agree to allow to others the exclusive or nonexclusive use of the design
31 of the special license plate. The design of the special license plate, excepting only the
32 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks logo and any other part of the design owned by
33 others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its
34 exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The commissioner
35 may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such right, including
36 the copyright. However, such steps shall be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use

1 and control established by this subsection as a matter of law and no person shall reproduce
2 or otherwise use such design, except as authorized by the commissioner.

3 (d) Beginning in calendar year 2006, any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor
4 vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon
5 complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor
6 vehicles and upon the payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 in addition to the regular
7 motor vehicle registration fee shall be issued a license plate commemorating the
8 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Revalidation decals shall be issued for such
9 license plates in the same manner as provided for general issue license plates.

10 (e) An applicant may request a license plate commemorating the Benevolent and
11 Protective Order of Elks at any time during the applicant's registration period. If such a
12 license plate is to replace a current valid license plate, such license plate shall be issued
13 with appropriate decals attached.

14 (f) No special license plate authorized pursuant to this Code section shall be issued except
15 upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 applications. The special license plate
16 shall have an application period of two years after January 1, 2006, for payment of the
17 manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the
18 department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be
19 refunded to applicants.

20 (g) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license
21 plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during
22 the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may
23 continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period
24 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag fee which fee shall be collected
25 by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be
26 remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue
27 to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the
28 minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active
29 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section
30 40-2-31, the department must receive 1,000 applications accompanied by the
31 manufacturing fee to continue to manufacture the license plate.

32 (h) Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks license plates shall be transferred from one
33 vehicle to another vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-80.

34 (i) Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks license plates shall be issued within 30 days
35 of application once the requirements of this Code section have been met.

1 40-2-86.12.

2 (a) The commissioner, in cooperation with licensed emergency services personnel in
3 Georgia, and in order to promote and honor these individuals, shall design a special license
4 plate to be issued displaying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's EMS
5 Star of Life Symbol and the initials 'EMS.' The license plates must be of the same size as
6 general issue motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying
7 number, whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six. It shall not be a
8 requirement that a county name decal shall be fixed and displayed on license plates issued
9 under this Code section.

10 (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Code section, this Code section shall
11 not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing
12 agreement or otherwise, received such licenses or other permissions as may be required to
13 implement this Code section. The design of the initial edition of the emergency medical
14 services license plates, as well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any
15 part or parts of the designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely
16 by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the
17 commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice
18 of and protect such right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall
19 be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this
20 subsection as a matter of law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design
21 or designs, except as authorized by the commissioner.

22 (c) Beginning in calendar year 2006, any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor
23 vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, and provides
24 proof of certification or licensure by the State of Georgia as an emergency medical
25 technician, paramedic, or owner of a licensed ambulance service in the State of Georgia,
26 upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor
27 vehicles and upon the payment of a fee of \$25.00 in addition to the regular motor vehicle
28 registration fee, shall be issued an emergency medical services license plate. Special
29 license plates issued under this Code section shall be renewed annually with a revalidation
30 decal as provided in Code Section 40-2-31 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual
31 registration fee, which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of
32 collection of other registration fees and remitted to the state as provided in Code Section
33 40-2-34.

34 (d) A qualified applicant may request an emergency medical services license plate any
35 time during the applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current
36 valid license plate, the emergency medical services license plate shall be issued with
37 appropriate decals attached.

1 (e) No special license plate authorized pursuant to this Code section shall be issued except
2 upon the receipt of at least 1,000 applications. The special license plate shall have an
3 application period of two years after January 1, 2006, for payment of the manufacturing
4 fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department
5 shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be refunded to
6 applicants.

7 (f) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license
8 plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during
9 the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may
10 continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period
11 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag fee, which fee shall be collected
12 by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be
13 remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue
14 to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the
15 minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active
16 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section
17 40-2-31, manufacture of the license plates shall not be continued until the commissioner
18 receives 1,000 applications.

19 (g) Emergency medical services license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to
20 another vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-42.

21 (h) Emergency medical services license plates shall be issued within 30 days of
22 application.

23 40-2-86.13.

24 (a) In order to promote and financially provide for historic preservation efforts in Georgia,
25 there shall be issued beginning January 1, 2006, special license plates promoting such
26 efforts.

27 (b) The Division of Historic Preservation of the Department of Natural Resources shall
28 design special distinctive license plates appropriate to promote historic preservation efforts
29 in Georgia. Such license plates must be of the same size as general issue motor vehicle
30 license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number, whereby the total
31 characters do not exceed the sum of six. No two recipients shall receive identically
32 numbered plates. Such design shall not provide space in which to indicate the name of the
33 county of issuance.

34 (c) The design of the initial edition of the special historic preservation license plate, as well
35 as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or parts of the designs
36 which may be owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State

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

7 (d) Beginning on January 1, 2006, 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 not more than \$25.00 in addition to the regular
11 motor vehicle registration fee, may be issued a historic preservation license plate.
12 Revalidation decals shall be issued for historic preservation license plates in the same
13 manner as provided for general issue license plates upon complying with the motor vehicle
14 laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon the payment of a fee
15 of not more than \$25.00 in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee.

16 (e) The funds derived from the sale and revalidation of historic preservation license plates,
17 less a \$1.00 processing fee, which shall be granted to county tag offices per plate sold, and
18 less the actual manufacturing cost of the plates, shall be deposited in the general fund of
19 the state treasury. As soon as practicable after December 31 of each year, the
20 commissioner shall report the net amount derived from the sale of historic preservation
21 license plates to the Office of Planning and Budget and the Division of Historic
22 Preservation of the Department of Natural Resources. Subject to the appropriations
23 process, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the General Assembly appropriate an
24 amount equal to the net proceeds from the sale of such license plates to the Department of
25 Natural Resources for use by the Historic Preservation Division to fund historic
26 preservation programs in the state through the Georgia historic preservation grant program
27 as otherwise authorized by law.

28 (f) No special license plate authorized pursuant to this Code section shall be issued except
29 upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 applications. The special license plate
30 shall have an application period of two years after January 1, 2006, for payment of the
31 manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the
32 department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be
33 refunded to applicants.

34 (g) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license
35 plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during
36 the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may
37 continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period

1 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag fee which fee shall be collected
2 by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be
3 remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue
4 to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the
5 minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active
6 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section
7 40-2-31, the department must receive 1,000 applications accompanied by the
8 manufacturing fee to continue to manufacture the license plate.

9 (h) An applicant may request a historic preservation license plate any time during the
10 applicant's registration period. If a historic preservation license plate is to replace a current
11 valid license plate, the department shall issue the historic preservation license plate with
12 appropriate decals attached. When an applicant requests a historic preservation license
13 plate at the beginning of the registration period, the applicant shall pay the tax together
14 with all applicable fees.

15 (i) Historic preservation license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to another
16 vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-42.

17 (j) Historic preservation license plates shall be issued within 30 days of application.

18 (k) The Department of Natural Resources shall submit a report to the chairpersons of the
19 Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee and House Natural Resources
20 and Environment Committee detailing the receipt and expenditure of all appropriated funds
21 and all funds received from the sale of historic preservation license plates as provided by
22 this Code section to promote historic preservation. Such report shall be made not later than
23 the second Monday of January of each year.

24 40-2-86.14.

25 (a) There shall be issued beginning in 2006 special and distinctive vehicle license plates
26 identifying licensed Georgia physicians, subject to the conditions set forth in this Code
27 section.

28 (b) The commissioner shall design special distinctive license plates identifying licensed
29 Georgia physicians. The license plates must be of the same size as general issue motor
30 vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number, whereby
31 the total number of characters does not exceed six. No two recipients shall receive
32 identically numbered plates. The license plate will contain the words 'Licensed Georgia
33 Physician' in the space normally containing the county of issuance. Such design shall not
34 provide space in which to indicate the name of the county of issuance. The graphic on the
35 special license plate shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be
36 no larger than three inches by three inches.

1 (c) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Code section, this Code section shall
2 not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing
3 agreement or otherwise and at no cost to the state, received such licenses or other
4 permissions as may be required for the use of any logo or as may otherwise be necessary
5 or appropriate to implement this Code section. No royalty, license fee, or other moneys
6 shall be paid to any organization or its licensor for the use by the state of such logo or
7 design on license plates authorized by this Code section. The commissioner may charge
8 fees, take other actions, and agree to or impose terms and conditions which might normally
9 be envisioned in licensing and cross-licensing agreements for the use of designs and similar
10 intellectual property. Without limitation, the commissioner may agree to allow to others
11 the exclusive or nonexclusive use of the design of the special license plate. The design of
12 the special license plate, excepting only any part of the design owned by others and
13 licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and
14 control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps
15 as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such right, including the copyright.
16 However, such steps shall be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control
17 established by this subsection as a matter of law and no person shall reproduce or otherwise
18 use such design, except as authorized by the commissioner.

19 (d) Beginning in calendar year 2006, any qualified Georgia resident who shows proof that
20 he or she is a licensed Georgia physician and is the owner of a motor vehicle, except a
21 vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon complying with the
22 motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon the
23 payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 in addition to the regular motor vehicle
24 registration fee shall be issued a license plate identifying him or her as a licensed Georgia
25 physician. Revalidation decals shall be issued for such license plates in the same manner
26 as provided for general issue license plates.

27 (e) An applicant may request a license plate identifying him or her as a licensed Georgia
28 physician at any time during the applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is
29 to replace a current valid license plate, such license plate shall be issued with appropriate
30 decals attached.

31 (f) No special license plate authorized pursuant to this Code section shall be issued except
32 upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 applications. The special license plate
33 shall have an application period of two years after January 1, 2006, for payment of the
34 manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the
35 department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be
36 refunded to applicants.

1 (g) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license
2 plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during
3 the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may
4 continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period
5 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag fee which fee shall be collected
6 by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be
7 remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue
8 to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the
9 minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active
10 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section
11 40-2-31, the department must receive 1,000 applications accompanied by the
12 manufacturing fee to continue to manufacture the license plate.

13 (h) License plates identifying licensed Georgia physicians shall be transferred from one
14 vehicle to another vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-80.

15 (i) License plates identifying licensed Georgia physicians shall be issued within 30 days
16 of application once the requirements of this Code section have been met.

17 40-2-86.15.

18 (a) In order to promote the Governor's Highway Safety Program, there shall be issued
19 beginning January 1, 2006, special license plates bearing the NASCAR logo with a specific
20 driver or general motorsports theme, subject to the conditions set forth in this Code section.
21 Also, in order to promote and provide for motorist and bicyclist safety and interaction
22 education and awareness programs and media campaigns; adult and child bicycling safety
23 training, workshops, and educational materials; assistance in forming local bicycle advisory
24 committees; law enforcement education and implementation programs for policing by
25 bicycle and policing to improve bicycling conditions; and 'share the road/yield to
26 bicycles/bicyclists may use full lane' sign installations through the Governor's Highway
27 Safety Program, there shall be issued beginning January 1, 2006, special license plates
28 promoting and benefiting such efforts, which shall be known as the 'Share the Road'
29 Motorists and Bicyclists special license plate.

30 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Code Section 40-2-4, for the NASCAR plates, the
31 supplier of the plates, as designated by NASCAR, in consultation with the commissioner
32 shall design special distinctive license plates bearing the NASCAR logo with a specific
33 driver or general motorsports theme. For the 'Share the Road' plates, the commissioner
34 shall design a special distinctive license plate in conjunction with the Southern Bicycle
35 League and Bicycle Ride Across Georgia appropriate to promote the message of motorists
36 and bicyclists safely and courteously sharing the roadway. The license plates shall be of

1 the same size as general issue motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique
2 design and identifying number, whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six.
3 No two recipients shall receive identically numbered plates. The graphic on the special
4 license plates shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be no
5 larger than three inches by three inches. Such design shall not provide space in which to
6 indicate the name of the county of issuance.

7 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this Code section, this Code section
8 shall not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing
9 agreement or otherwise, received any licenses or other permissions that may be required
10 to implement this Code section. The design of the initial edition of the license plates, as
11 well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or parts of the
12 designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of
13 Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The
14 commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such
15 right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall be cumulative of
16 the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this subsection as a matter of
17 law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design or designs, except as
18 authorized by the commissioner.

19 (d) Beginning in calendar year 2006, any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor
20 vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon
21 complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor
22 vehicles and upon the payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 in addition to the regular
23 motor vehicle registration fee shall be issued a license plate promoting NASCAR or
24 promoting bicycle safety and sharing the roadway. Revalidation decals shall be issued for
25 such license plates in the same manner as provided for general issue license plates.

26 (e)(1) From the additional \$25.00 fee charged for the issuance and renewal of the
27 NASCAR license plates authorized under this Code section, \$10.25 shall be used by the
28 department for purchasing plates from the supplier of the plates, as designated by
29 NASCAR, and royalty costs, and \$14.75 shall be paid to the general fund of the state
30 treasury with the intent of supporting the Governor's Highway Safety Program. From the
31 additional \$25.00 fee charged for the issuance of the 'Share the Road' license plates
32 authorized under this Code section, subject to the general appropriations process, it is the
33 intent of the General Assembly that all such funds shall be utilized by the Governor's
34 Highway Safety Program to provide for motorist and bicyclist safety and interaction
35 education and awareness programs and media campaigns; adult and child bicycling safety
36 training, workshops, and educational materials; assistance in forming local bicycle
37 advisory committees; law enforcement education and implementation programs for

1 policing by bicycle and policing to improve bicycling conditions; and 'share the
2 road/yield to bicycles/bicyclists may use full lane' sign installations. The Office of
3 Highway Safety may enter into contractual agreements, as may be appropriate, to further
4 such objectives. The Office of Highway Safety may provide said funds for use as local
5 or minimum matching funds. The agency or organization ultimately making use of such
6 funds shall periodically provide to the commissioner an audit of the use of the funds or
7 other evidence of use of the funds satisfactory to the commissioner. Any audit performed
8 under Chapter 6 of Title 50 shall meet this auditing requirement. If an audit demonstrates
9 that the funds are not being used for the purposes set forth in this Code section or if the
10 required audit or evidence is not provided to the commissioner, then the commissioner
11 shall so notify the appropriations committees of the Senate and the House of
12 Representatives. Any funds appropriated pursuant to this Code section shall not lapse.

13 (2) Subject to the general appropriations process, it is the intent of the General Assembly
14 in the enactment of this Code section that the funds dedicated by this subsection be made
15 available for the ultimate use of the Governor's Highway Safety Program administered
16 by the Office of Highway Safety in the Department of Public Safety.

17 (f) An applicant may request a NASCAR or 'Share the Road' license plate any time during
18 the applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current valid
19 license plate, the NASCAR or 'Share the Road' license plate shall be issued with
20 appropriate decals attached.

21 (g) No special license plate authorized pursuant to this Code section shall be issued except
22 upon the receipt of at least 1,000 applications. The special license plates shall have an
23 application period of two years after January 1, 2006, for payment of the manufacturing
24 fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department
25 shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be refunded to
26 applicants.

27 (h) The department shall not be required to continue to provide the special license plates
28 if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during the
29 period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may
30 continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period
31 upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag fee, which fee shall be collected
32 by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be
33 remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue
34 to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the
35 minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active
36 registrations at any time during the period as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section

1 40-2-31, production of the license plates shall not be continued until the commissioner
2 receives 1,000 applications.

3 (i) NASCAR or 'Share the Road' license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to
4 another vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-80.

5 (j) NASCAR or 'Share the Road' license plates shall be issued within 30 days of
6 application once the requirements of this Code section have been met."

7 **SECTION 7.**

8 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2006.

9 **SECTION 8.**

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