

The House Committee on Motor Vehicles offers the following substitute to HB 1220:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-2-78 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to a
2 special license plate for firefighters, so as to remove the limitation on the number of plates
3 a firefighter can obtain; to provide that such license plates may be retained by the
4 firefighter's spouse upon the death of the firefighter; to provide for related matters; to
5 provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 40-2-78 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to a special license
9 plate for firefighters, is amended by revising subsection (a) and adding a new subsection as
10 follows:

11 "(a) Any resident motor vehicle owners who are firefighters certified pursuant to Article 1
12 of Chapter 4 of Title 25 and who are members of fire departments certified pursuant to
13 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 and motor vehicle owners who are certified firefighters
14 of legally organized volunteer fire departments which have been certified pursuant to
15 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 may submit an application to the commissioner for a
16 special and distinctive vehicle license plate identifying the owner as a certified firefighter
17 for a private passenger car or truck used for personal transportation. The commissioner
18 shall retain all applications for such special firefighters' license plates until a minimum of
19 500 applications have been received. If the commissioner does not receive the required
20 minimum 500 applications no later than July 31 of the year preceding the initial year of
21 issuance of such plates, no such special plates shall be issued and all fees shall be refunded
22 to applicants. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with the state motor
23 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as prescribed in
24 Article 2 of this chapter. ~~No firefighter shall be entitled to more than one special and~~
25 ~~distinctive motor vehicle license plate.~~ Such license plate shall be inscribed with such
26 letters, numbers, words, symbols, or a combination thereof as determined by the

1 commissioner to identify the owner as a certified firefighter. The chiefs of the various fire
2 departments shall furnish to the commissioner a list of the certified firefighters of their fire
3 departments who reside in Georgia which list shall be updated as necessary."

4 "(e) The spouse of a deceased firefighter shall continue to be eligible to be issued a
5 distinctive special firefighter's license plate as provided in this Code section so long as
6 such person does not remarry."

7 **SECTION 2.**

8 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
9 without such approval.

10 **SECTION 3.**

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