

The Senate Public Safety Committee offered the following substitute to HB 1220:

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 and special license plates, so as to remove the limitation on the number  
3 of plates 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 a special license plate  
5 supporting the Georgia Sea Turtle Center; to provide that a portion of the funds generated  
6 by the sale of such special license plate be disbursed to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center; to  
7 modify certain provisions relating to the Support Our Troops special license plate; to provide  
8 for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
9 purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

11 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
12 prestige and special license plates, is amended by revising subsection (a) and adding a new  
13 subsection to Code Section 40-2-78, relating to a special license plate for firefighters, as  
14 follows:  
15

16 "(a) Any resident motor vehicle owners who are firefighters certified pursuant to Article 1  
17 of Chapter 4 of Title 25 and who are members of fire departments certified pursuant to  
18 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 and motor vehicle owners who are certified firefighters  
19 of legally organized volunteer fire departments which have been certified pursuant to  
20 Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 may submit an application to the commissioner for a  
21 special and distinctive vehicle license plate identifying the owner as a certified firefighter  
22 for a private passenger car or truck used for personal transportation. The commissioner  
23 shall retain all applications for such special firefighters' license plates until a minimum of  
24 500 applications have been received. If the commissioner does not receive the required  
25 minimum 500 applications no later than July 31 of the year preceding the initial year of  
26 issuance of such plates, no such special plates shall be issued and all fees shall be refunded  
27 to applicants. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with the state motor

1 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as prescribed in  
 2 Article 2 of this chapter. ~~No firefighter shall be entitled to more than one special and~~  
 3 ~~distinctive motor vehicle license plate.~~ Such license plate shall be inscribed with such  
 4 letters, numbers, words, symbols, or a combination thereof as determined by the  
 5 commissioner to identify the owner as a certified firefighter. The chiefs of the various fire  
 6 departments shall furnish to the commissioner a list of the certified firefighters of their fire  
 7 departments who reside in Georgia which list shall be updated as necessary."

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

### 11 SECTION 2.

12 Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-86.21, relating to special license plates  
 13 promoting certain beneficial projects and supporting certain worthy agencies, funds, or  
 14 nonprofit corporations, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (o) as follows:

15 "(38) A special license plate supporting the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The funds raised  
 16 by the sale of this special license plate shall be charged and disbursed to the Jekyll  
 17 Island—State Park Authority and used to fund educational programs and support other  
 18 projects at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The design of the license plate provided for  
 19 in this paragraph shall include the words 'Jekyll Island – Georgia's Jewel' horizontally  
 20 across the bottom of the plate in lieu of the county name, with a diamond jewel symbol  
 21 in place of the dash."

### 22 SECTION 3.

23 Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-86.21, relating to special license plates  
 24 promoting certain beneficial projects and supporting certain worthy agencies, funds, or  
 25 nonprofit corporations, by revising paragraph 18 of subsection (o) as follows:

26 "(18) A special license endorsing 'Support Our Troops.' The funds raised by the sale of  
 27 this special license plate shall be disbursed to ~~Georgia Support Our Troops, Inc.~~ the  
 28 Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation, Incorporated."

### 29 SECTION 4.

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

### 32 SECTION 5.

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