

The House Committee on Judiciary Non-civil offers the following substitute to
HB 538:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-5-81 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 optional driver improvement programs, so as to provide that defensive driving courses be
3 certified and approved by the Department of Driver Services; to provide that certificates of
4 completion from unlicensed courses shall not be recognized; to provide for related matters;
5 to provide 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 40-5-81 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to optional driver
9 improvement programs, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

10 "(a) Any driver improvement program at which attendance is required by court order shall
11 conform to the requirements of this article. When a defensive driving course is required
12 by a court having jurisdiction over misdemeanor traffic law offenses or by any prosecuting
13 attorney thereof, such course shall be certified and approved by the department under the
14 provisions of Code Sections 40-5-82 and 40-5-83. Certificates of completion from
15 unlicensed defensive driving courses shall not be recognized for any purposes under this
16 article."

17 **SECTION 2.**

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

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.