

House Bill 981

By: Representatives Chambers of the 81st, Martin of the 47th, and Day of the 163rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-8-91 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 marking and equipment of law enforcement vehicles and allowing motorist to continue to
3 safe locations before stopping for law enforcement officer vehicles, so as to authorize to
4 Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to have patrol vehicles painted a solid
5 color; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 40-8-91 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to marking and
9 equipment of law enforcement vehicles and allowing motorist to continue to safe locations
10 before stopping for law enforcement officer vehicles, is amended by revising subsection (b)
11 as follows:

12 "(b) Any motor vehicle, except as hereinafter provided in this subsection, used by any
13 employee of the Georgia State Patrol for the purpose of enforcing the traffic laws of this
14 state shall be distinctly painted, marked, and equipped in such manner as shall be
15 prescribed by the commissioner of public safety pursuant to this Code section. The
16 commissioner in prescribing the manner in which such vehicles shall be painted, marked,
17 or equipped shall:

18 (1) Require that all such motor vehicles be painted in a two-toned uniform color or a
19 solid color. ~~The~~ For vehicles painted in a two-toned color, the hood, top, and the top area
20 not to exceed 12 inches below the bottom of the window opening thereof shall be a light
21 gray color and the remaining portion of said motor vehicle shall be painted a dark blue
22 color;

23 (2) Require that any such motor vehicle be equipped with at least one lamp which when
24 lighted shall display a flashing or revolving colored light visible under normal
25 atmospheric conditions for a distance of 500 feet from the front and rear of such vehicle;
26 and

27 (3) Require that any such motor vehicle shall be distinctly marked on each side and the
28 back thereof with the wording 'State Patrol' in letters not less than six inches in height of
29 a contrasting color from the background color of the motor vehicle.

30 Notwithstanding the above provisions, it shall be permissible for the commissioner to allow
31 not more than five motor vehicles per State Patrol post to be employed in traffic law
32 enforcement which are painted any solid color designated by the commissioner and marked
33 with 'State Patrol' in six inch high letters of a contrasting color."

34

SECTION 2.

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