

House Bill 981

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

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.