

House Bill 102

By: Representatives Shaw of the 176th, Black of the 174th, Sharper of the 177th, Waites of the 60th, Yates of the 73rd, and others

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 license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, so as to
3 provide for a special license plate for veterans of the United States armed forces; to provide
4 for applications; to provide for a minimum number of applications; to provide for fees; to
5 provide for transfer of plates; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, is amended by
11 adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "40-2-86.2.

13 (a) Motor vehicle owners who are veterans of the armed forces of the United States who
14 were discharged from the armed forces under conditions other than dishonorable shall be
15 eligible to receive special and distinctive vehicle license plates for private passenger cars,
16 trucks, or recreational vehicles used for personal transportation, provided that the requisite
17 number of applications is received by the commissioner as provided in subsection (b) of
18 this Code section. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with the state motor
19 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as prescribed in Article
20 2 of this chapter.

21 (b) A veteran who qualifies for the special and distinctive license plate pursuant to
22 subsection (a) of this Code section shall make application therefor with the commissioner
23 and include the requisite fee. The commissioner shall design a distinctive license plate as
24 provided in subsection (c) of this Code section and issue the distinctive license plates to
25 present and future qualifying applicants. No special license plate authorized pursuant to
26 subsection (a) of this Code section shall be issued except upon the receipt by the

27 department of at least 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fees. The
28 special license plate shall have an application period of two years after the date on which
29 the application period becomes effective for payment of the manufacturing fee. After such
30 time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department shall not continue
31 to accept the manufacturing fees, and all fees shall be refunded to applicants; provided,
32 however, that once the department has received 1,000 prepaid applications along with the
33 manufacturing fees, the sponsor shall not be entitled to a refund. The commissioner shall
34 promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to enforce compliance with all
35 state license laws relating to the use and operation of private passenger cars and trucks
36 before issuing these license plates in lieu of the regular Georgia license plates. The
37 manufacturing fee for such special and distinctive license plates shall be \$25.00. The
38 commissioner is specifically authorized to promulgate all rules and regulations necessary
39 to ensure compliance in instances where such vehicles have been transferred or sold.
40 Except as provided in subsection (d) of this Code section, such plates shall be
41 nontransferable.

42 (c) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates shall be as prescribed in Article 2 of
43 this chapter for private passenger cars or trucks used for personal transportation.
44 Additional words or symbols, in addition to the numbers and letters prescribed by law,
45 shall be inscribed upon such license plates so as to identify distinctively the owner as a
46 veteran of the armed services.

47 (d) The license plate issued pursuant to this Code section shall be transferred between
48 vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-80. The spouse of a deceased veteran shall
49 continue to be eligible to be issued a distinctive personalized license plate as provided in
50 this Code section for any vehicle owned by such veteran, ownership of which is transferred
51 to the surviving spouse, or for any other vehicle owned by such surviving spouse either at
52 the time of the qualifying veteran's death or acquired thereafter, so long as such person
53 does not remarry.

54 (e) Special license plates issued under this Code section shall be renewed annually with
55 a revalidation decal as provided in Code Section 40-2-31. It shall be a requirement that a
56 county name decal shall be affixed and displayed on license plates issued under this Code
57 section."

58 **SECTION 2.**

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