

House Bill 994

By: Representatives Holcomb of the 81st, Buckner of the 137th, Harbin of the 122nd, and Jordan of the 77th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-2-86.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 special license plates to promote beneficial causes or identify certain individuals, so as to
3 provide for a special emblem or logo in lieu of the requirement that the words "alternative
4 fueled vehicle" be imprinted upon the license plate for certain types of vehicles utilizing
5 alternative fuel; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9

SECTION 1.

10 Code Section 40-2-86.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to special license
11 plates to promote beneficial causes or identify certain individuals, is amended by revising
12 paragraph (7) of subsection (l) as follows:

13 "(7)(A) A special license plate to be issued for alternative fueled vehicles, which
14 license plate shall be similar in design to the license plate issued to all other residents
15 of the state except that the commissioner shall place a distinctive logo or emblem on
16 the license plate which shall distinguish the vehicle as an alternative fueled vehicle
17 eligible to travel in travel lanes designated for such vehicles under paragraph (4) of
18 subsection (a) of Code Section 32-9-4. The words 'alternative fueled vehicle' shall be
19 imprinted on such special license plate in lieu of the county name decal, except that for
20 governmental vehicles, taxicabs, limousines, and fleet vehicles, the specific type of
21 vehicle indicator decal may be imprinted on such special license plate along with an
22 additional distinctive logo or emblem to be designated by the commissioner which
23 identifies the vehicle as an alternative fueled vehicle in lieu of the words 'alternative
24 fueled vehicle.' The funds raised by the sale of this license plate shall be deposited in
25 the general fund.

26 (B) As used in this paragraph, the term:

27 (i) 'Alternative fuel' means methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols; mixtures
28 containing 85 percent or more or such other percentage, but not less than 70 percent,
29 as determined by the United States secretary of energy, by rule as it existed on
30 January 1, 1997, to provide for requirements relating to cold start, safety, or vehicle
31 functions, by volume of methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols with gasoline
32 or other fuels; natural gas; liquefied petroleum gas; hydrogen; coal derived liquid
33 fuels; fuels other than alcohol derived from biological materials; electricity including
34 electricity from solar energy; and any other fuel the United States secretary of energy
35 determined by rule as it existed on January 1, 1997, is substantially not petroleum and
36 would yield substantial energy security benefits and substantial environmental
37 benefits.

38 (ii) 'Alternative fueled vehicle' means:

39 (I) Any vehicle fueled by alternative fuel as defined in division (i) of this
40 subparagraph; or

41 (II) A hybrid vehicle, which means a motor vehicle which draws propulsion energy
42 from onboard sources of stored energy which include an internal combustion or heat
43 engine using combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy storage system; and, in the
44 case of a passenger automobile or light truck, means for any 2000 and later model,
45 a vehicle which has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act, 42
46 U.S.C. Section 7401, et seq., and meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying
47 California low-emission vehicle standard under Section 243(e)(2) of the Clean Air
48 Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7583(c)(2), for that make and model year or, for any 2004
49 and later model, a vehicle which has received a certificate that such vehicle meets
50 or exceeds the Bin 5 Tier II emission level established in regulations prescribed by
51 the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under Section 202(i) of
52 the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7521(i), for that make and model year vehicle
53 and which achieves a composite label fuel economy greater than or equal to 1.5
54 times the Model Year 2002 EPA composite class average for the same vehicle class
55 and which is made by a manufacturer."

56 **SECTION 2.**

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