

Senate Bill 392

By: Senators Gooch of the 51st, Mullis of the 53rd, Miller of the 49th, Dugan of the 30th, Wilkinson of the 50th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles, so  
2 as to provide for an additional definition; to provide for acceptance of applications for  
3 registration for certain motor vehicles not in compliance with federal emission standards; to  
4 provide for acceptance of applications for title for certain motor vehicles not in compliance  
5 with federal emission standards; to exclude certain motor vehicles from the definition of  
6 "unconventional motor vehicle or motorcycle"; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles, is amended  
11 by adding a new subsection to Code Section 40-1-1, relating to definitions, to read as  
12 follows:

13 "(17.1) 'Former military motor vehicle' means a motor vehicle which operates on the  
14 ground, including a trailer, that was manufactured for use in any country's military forces  
15 and is maintained to represent its military design, regardless of the vehicle's size, weight,  
16 or year of manufacture. Such term shall not include motor vehicles armed for combat or  
17 vehicles owned or operated by this state, the United States, or any foreign government."

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-2-27, relating to registration of  
20 motor vehicles not manufactured to comply with federal emission and safety standards, as  
21 follows:

22 "40-2-27.

23 (a) No application shall be accepted and no certificate of registration shall be issued to any  
24 motor vehicle which was not manufactured to comply with applicable federal emission  
25 standards issued pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. Section 7401 through Section 7642, known as

26 the Clean Air Act, as amended, and applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards  
 27 issued pursuant to 49 U.S.C.A. Section 30101, et seq., unless and until the United States  
 28 Customs Service or the United States Department of Transportation has certified that the  
 29 motor vehicle complies with such applicable federal standards and unless all documents  
 30 required by the commissioner for processing an application for a certificate of registration  
 31 or title are printed and filled out in the English language or are accompanied by an English  
 32 translation.

33 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this Code section shall ~~only~~ not apply to  
 34 applications for certificates of registration for such motor vehicles ~~first registered in~~  
 35 ~~Georgia after July 1, 1985~~ that have a manufactured date that is 25 years or older at the  
 36 time of application. Certification of compliance shall only be required at the time of  
 37 application for the issuance of the initial Georgia certificate of registration.

38 (c) Applications for registration of such motor vehicles shall be accompanied by a Georgia  
 39 certificate of title, proof that an application for a Georgia certificate of title has been  
 40 properly submitted, or such other information and documentation of ownership as the  
 41 commissioner shall deem proper.

42 (d) Before a certificate of registration is issued for an assembled motor vehicle or  
 43 motorcycle, such assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle shall have been issued a  
 44 certificate of title in Georgia and shall comply with the provisions of Code Section  
 45 40-3-30.1.

46 (e) The provisions of subsection (a) of this Code section shall not apply to applications for  
 47 certificates of registration for former military motor vehicles that are less than 25 years old  
 48 and manufactured for the United States military."

### 49 SECTION 3.

50 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-3-30, relating to required  
 51 compliance with federal motor vehicle safety standards, as follows:

52 "40-3-30.

53 (a) In addition to the reasons set forth in Code Section 40-3-29, no application shall be  
 54 accepted and no certificate of title shall be issued to any motor vehicle which was not  
 55 manufactured to comply with applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards issued  
 56 pursuant to 49 U.S.C.A. Section 30101, et seq., unless and until the United States Customs  
 57 Service or the United States Department of Transportation has certified that the motor  
 58 vehicle complies with such applicable federal standards and unless all documents required  
 59 by the commissioner for processing an application for a certificate of registration or title  
 60 are printed and filled out in the English language or are accompanied by an English  
 61 translation.

62 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this Code section shall ~~only~~ not apply to  
 63 applications for certificates of title for such motor vehicles first titled in Georgia ~~after~~  
 64 ~~July 1, 1985~~ that have a manufactured date that is 25 years or older at the time of  
 65 application. Certification of compliance shall only be required at the time of application  
 66 for the issuance of the initial Georgia certificate of title.

67 (c) The provisions of subsection (a) of this Code section shall not apply to applications for  
 68 certificates of title for former military motor vehicles that are less than 25 years old and  
 69 manufactured for the United States military."

70

#### SECTION 4.

71 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-3-30.1, relating to inspections for  
 72 assembled motor vehicles, unconventional motor vehicles, and motorcycles, as follows:

73 "40-3-30.1.

74 (a) As used in this Code section and in Code Section 40-2-27, the term:

75 (1) 'Assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle' or 'kit motor vehicle or motorcycle' means  
 76 any motor vehicle or motorcycle that is:

77 (A) Manufactured from a manufacturer's kit or manufacturer's fabricated parts,  
 78 including replicas and original designs:

79 (i) By an owner;

80 (ii) At the request of the owner by a third-party manufacturer of motor vehicles or  
 81 motorcycles; and

82 (iii) Such manufacturer is not manufacturing and testing in accordance with federal  
 83 safety standards issued pursuant to 49 U.S.C.A. Section 30101, et seq., unless and  
 84 until the United States Customs Service or the United States Department of  
 85 Transportation has certified that the motor vehicle complies with such applicable  
 86 federal standards;

87 (B) A new vehicle and consists of a prefabricated body, chassis, and drive train;

88 (C) Handmade and not mass produced by any manufacturer for retail sale; or

89 (D) Not otherwise excluded from emission requirements and is in compliance with  
 90 Chapter 8 of Title 40, relating to equipment and inspection of motor vehicles.

91 (2)(A) 'Unconventional motor vehicle or motorcycle' means any motor vehicle or  
 92 motorcycle that is manufactured, including, but not limited to, all-terrain vehicles,  
 93 off-road vehicles, motorized carts, motor driven cycles, and mopeds, and that is not in  
 94 compliance with the following:

95 ~~(A)~~(i) Chapter 8 of Title 40, relating to equipment and inspection of motor vehicles;

96 ~~(B)~~(ii) Applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards issued pursuant to 49  
 97 U.S.C.A. Section 30101, et seq., unless and until the United States Customs Service

98 or the United States Department of Transportation has certified that the motor vehicle  
99 complies with such applicable federal standards; or  
100 ~~(C)~~(iii) Applicable federal emission standards issued pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. Section  
101 7401 through Section 7642, the 'Clean Air Act,' as amended.

102 (B) Such term shall not include former military motor vehicles.

103 (b) In addition to the requirements contained in Code Section 40-3-30, prior to the  
104 issuance of a certificate of title to the owner of an assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle,  
105 the owner shall cause such assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle to be inspected in order  
106 to establish:

107 (1) The existence of a verifiable Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin (MCO) or other  
108 verifiable documentation of purchase of all major components; and

109 (2) That such assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle complies with:

110 (A) Chapter 8 of Title 40, relating to equipment and inspection of motor vehicles; and

111 (B) If applicable, federal emission standards issued pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. Section  
112 7401 through Section 7642, the 'Clean Air Act,' as amended.

113 (c) The inspection conducted under subsection (b) of this Code section shall only be for  
114 the purpose of establishing that such assembled motor vehicle or motorcycle is eligible to  
115 receive a certificate of title.

116 (d) The department shall be authorized to charge an inspection fee.

117 (e) Unconventional motor vehicles or motorcycles shall not be titled or registered."

118 **SECTION 5.**

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