

House Bill 159

By: Representatives Maxwell of the 17th, Yates of the 73rd, Roberts of the 155th, Williams of the 168th, and Ealum of the 153rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-2-85.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 special and distinctive license plates for veterans, so as to provide for issuance of such plates
3 for use on motorcycles; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 40-2-85.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to special and
7 distinctive license plates for veterans, is amended by revising subsections (b), (c), and (d) as
8 follows:

9 "(b)(1) Motor vehicle and trailer owners who are veterans of the armed forces of the
10 United States, or who have received a military medal award, or persons who served
11 during active military combat shall be eligible to receive special and distinctive vehicle
12 license plates for private passenger cars, motorcycles, trucks, or recreational vehicles
13 used for personal transportation. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with
14 the state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as
15 prescribed in Article 2 of this chapter.

16 (2)(A) Motor vehicle and trailer owners who are veterans or have received a military
17 medal award or served during active military combat shall be issued upon application
18 for and upon compliance with the state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and
19 licensing of motor vehicles a veteran's license plate, military medal award recipient
20 license plate, or commemorative service license plate for service during active military
21 combat. One such license plate shall be issued without the requisite registration fee,
22 manufacturing fee, or annual registration fee.

23 (B) Each member or former member of the armed forces listed in this subsection shall
24 be entitled to no more than one such free license plate at a time; provided, however, that
25 upon payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00, a member shall be entitled to one
26 additional such license plate. For each additional license plate for which a \$25.00

27 manufacturing fee is required, there shall be an additional annual registration fee of
28 \$25.00 which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of collection of
29 other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section
30 40-2-34.

31 (c) The commissioner shall design a veteran's license plate, a military medal award
32 recipient license plate, and a license plate to commemorate service with the United States
33 armed forces during active military combat. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules
34 and regulations as may be necessary to enforce compliance with all state license laws
35 relating to the use and operation of private passenger cars, motorcycles, trucks, and trailers
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 (e) of this Code section, such plates shall be
41 nontransferable.

42 (d) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates shall be as prescribed in Article 2 of
43 this chapter for private passenger cars, motorcycles, trucks, and trailers used for personal
44 transportation. Such plates shall contain such words or symbols, in addition to the numbers
45 and letters prescribed by law, so as to identify distinctively the owners as veterans of the
46 armed forces of the United States, recipients of a military medal award, or persons who
47 served during active military combat and shall additionally identify distinctly the owner as
48 a veteran of one of the following branches of the armed forces: Army, Navy, Marines, Air
49 Force, or Coast Guard."

50 **SECTION 2.**

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