House Bill 671 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)
By: Representatives Dunahoo of the 30th, Epps of the 144th, Barr of the 103rd, McCall of the 33rd, Pruett of the 149th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, so as to revise the definition of authentic historical Georgia license plates and the use of such plates; so as to establish a specialty license plate to benefit the Georgia Beekeepers Association; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to provide for compliance with constitutional requirements; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.
Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, is amended by revising Code Section 40-2-41.1, relating to authentic historical Georgia license plates, as follows:

(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'authentic historical Georgia license plate' means a license plate originally issued in the year 1970 or earlier and originally required to be displayed on motor vehicles operated upon the streets and highways of this state in the year 1970 or earlier pursuant to former motor vehicle registration laws of this state.

(b) The owner of any antique motor vehicle manufactured in 1970 or earlier shall be authorized to display in lieu of and in the same manner as the license plate otherwise required under Code Section 40-2-41 an authentic historical Georgia license plate which clearly represents the model year within four years of any such antique motor vehicle, provided that the owner has properly registered such antique motor vehicle for the current year as otherwise required under this chapter and has obtained a current Georgia license plate or revalidation decal for such antique motor vehicle. Such currently valid Georgia license plate shall be kept in such antique motor vehicle at all times but need not be displayed in a manner to be visible from outside the vehicle.
(c) For purposes of this Code section, the authentic historical Georgia license plate shall be furnished by the owner of any such antique motor vehicle.

(d) No later than January 1, 2006, the commissioner shall have installed within the department's computer information system applicable to the registration of motor vehicles the necessary program which will include in the information relating to the current Georgia license plate or revalidation decal issued for an antique motor vehicle the information relating to the authentic historical Georgia license plate authorized to be displayed on such antique motor vehicle."

SECTION 2.

Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 40-2-86, relating to special license plates promoting and supporting certain beneficial projects, causes, agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (m) to read as follows:

"(14) A special license plate promoting the conservation and protection of the official insect of this state, the honey bee. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia Beekeepers Association and shall be used to increase public awareness of the importance of the conservation of the honey bee and for funding and supporting numerous association programs, including but not limited to the training and education of both new and experienced beekeepers, prison beekeeper programs, grants to beekeeping related nonprofit corporations, beekeeping research facilities in this state, and projects that encourage public support for the license plate and the activities it funds. Such special license plate shall include the phrase 'Save the Honey Bee' in lieu of the county of issuance."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 4.

In accordance with the requirements of Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, Section 2 this Act shall not become law unless it receives the requisite two-thirds’ majority vote in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 5.

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