

House Bill 351

By: Representatives Holly of the 111th and Hopson of the 153rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-6-163 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to duty
2 of driver of vehicle meeting or overtaking school bus, reporting of violations, and civil
3 monetary penalty for violations captured by school bus camera; so as to provide for criminal
4 penalties for failure to stop for a school bus loading or unloading passengers; to provide for
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 40-6-163 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to duty of driver
9 of vehicle meeting or overtaking school bus, reporting of violations, and civil monetary
10 penalty for violations captured by school bus camera, is amended by revising subsection (a)
11 as follows:

12 "(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, the driver of a vehicle
13 meeting or overtaking from either direction any school bus stopped on the highway shall
14 stop before reaching such school bus when there are in operation on the school bus the
15 visual signals as specified in Code Sections 40-8-111 and 40-8-115, and such driver shall
16 not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or the visual signals are no longer
17 actuated. When a violation of this Code section is observed in person by a law
18 enforcement officer, such offense shall constitute a misdemeanor and, upon conviction
19 thereof, shall be punished:

20 (1) For a first offense, by a fine of not less than \$250.00 in addition to any other penalties
21 stipulated by law, and the court shall report such conviction to the Department of Driver
22 Services; and

23 (2) For a second or subsequent offense within a five-year period of time, as measured
24 from the dates of previous citations for which convictions were obtained or pleas of nolo
25 contendere were accepted to the date of the current citation for which a conviction is
26 obtained or a plea of nolo contendere is accepted, by a fine of not less than \$500.00 nor

27 more than \$1,000.00. The court imposing punishment under this subsection shall forward
28 a record of the disposition of the case to the Department of Driver Services."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.