Senate Bill 129

By: Senators Adelman of the 42nd, Weber of the 40th, Moody of the 56th, Miles of the 43rd and Zamarripa of the 36th

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Code Section 16-12-120 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conduct in public transit buses, rapid rail cars, and rapid rail or intermodal bus stations, so as to provide that it shall be unlawful to solicit money or sell goods or services for a fee to the operator or passengers of a public transit bus or rapid rail car within the confines of such vehicle or inside the paid area of a rapid rail or intermodal bus station; to provide that it shall be unlawful to distribute certain materials to the operator or passengers of a public transit bus or rapid rail car within the confines of such vehicle or within the paid area of any rapid rail station or intermodal bus station; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to provide for applicability; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 16-12-120 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conduct in public transit buses, rapid rail cars, and rapid rail or intermodal bus stations, is amended by inserting a new subsection (a.1) to read as follows:

"(a.1)(1) It shall be unlawful to solicit money or sell goods or services for a fee to the operator or passengers of a public transit bus or rapid rail car within the confines of such vehicle or within the paid areas of any rapid rail station or intermodal bus station without the express permission or grant of a concession by the public transportation authority or carrier.

(2) It shall be unlawful to deliver or distribute handbills or flyers of a commercial nature to the operator or passengers of a public transit bus or rapid rail car within the confines of such vehicle or within the paid area of any rapid rail station or intermodal bus station.

(3) A person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than $50.00 and not more than $100.00. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, a person shall be punished

by a fine of not less than $100.00 and not more than $250.00 or by imprisonment for not more than ten days, or both.″

SECTION 2.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2005, and shall apply to all offenses occurring on and after such date.

SECTION 3.

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