

House Resolution 392

By: Representatives Corbett of the 174th, Powell of the 33rd, Wiedower of the 121st, Ridley of the 6th, and Smith of the 138th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on the State Board of Registration of Used Motor
2 Vehicle Dealers and Used Motor Vehicle Parts Dealers; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, according to the Georgia Department of Revenue, there has been a dramatic
4 increase in the number of illegal temporary operating permits issued by Georgia licensed
5 dealers in this state and in other states; and

6 WHEREAS, the department reports that a substantial number of licensed dealers are selling
7 temporary operating permits, which is illegal, and improperly issuing multiple temporary
8 operating permits to customers when the dealers cannot timely process the title application;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, lawmakers and industry leaders have expressed concerns over the abuse of
11 dealer plates with how the plates are used to avoid the payment of title ad valorem taxes on
12 luxury motor vehicles and to avoid personal responsibility for citations for moving violations
13 and unpaid tolls; and

14 WHEREAS, the department reports that it has discovered licensed motor vehicle dealers
15 selling or renting their dealer plates, which is illegal, and even sharing forged copies of their
16 dealer plates; and

17 WHEREAS, law enforcement officials report that criminals in Georgia and other states have
18 used illegally issued temporary operating permits, rented dealer plates, and forged copies of
19 dealer plates to move stolen motor vehicles and drugs, avoid payment of title ad valorem tax
20 and title and registration fees, operate vehicles without passing required federal emissions
21 standards, and operate vehicles without minimum liability insurance; and

22 WHEREAS, although temporary operating permits and motor vehicle dealer license plates
23 are overseen by the Department of Revenue, used car dealers are currently regulated by the
24 State Board of Registration of Used Motor Vehicle Dealers and Used Motor Vehicle Parts
25 Dealers which is overseen by the Secretary of State's office; and

26 WHEREAS, study is needed to determine whether regulation of the used motor vehicle
27 industry would be best suited within the same agency that is responsible for issuing license
28 plates that are essential for the operation of such business.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
30 GEORGIA:

31 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on
32 the State Board of Registration of Used Motor Vehicle Dealers and Used Motor Vehicle
33 Parts Dealers.

34 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of the following
35 members:

- 36 (A) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members of the
37 House of Representatives as members of the committee, one of whom shall be the
38 chairperson of the House Committee on Motor Vehicles and one of whom shall be the
39 chairperson of the House Committee on Regulated Industries. The Speaker of the
40 House of Representatives shall also designate one of such members as cochairperson;
- 41 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint four members of the Senate as members
42 of the committee, one of whom shall be the chairperson of the Senate Regulated
43 Industries and Utilities and one of whom shall be the chairperson of the Senate Public
44 Safety Committee. The President of the Senate shall also designate one of such
45 members as cochairperson;
- 46 (C) The Secretary of State or his or her designee;
- 47 (D) The commissioner of the Department of Revenue or his or her designee; and
- 48 (E) Two representatives from a state or local law enforcement agency with experience
49 in motor vehicle crimes, one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House
50 of Representatives and one of whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate.
- 51 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
52 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
53 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.
- 54 (4) **Meetings.** The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee. The
55 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
56 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform
57 its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.
- 58 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**
- 59 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided
60 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
- 61 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
62 or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee,

63 but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their
64 duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they are reimbursed for
65 expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

66 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
67 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
68 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
69 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
70 employees.

71 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
72 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
73 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
74 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and Senate; except that funds
75 for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members,
76 and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to
77 their respective agencies.

78 **(6) Report.**

79 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
80 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the
81 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
82 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

83 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
84 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to
85 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

86 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
87 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
88 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed
89 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

90 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
91 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes
92 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

93 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2025.