

House Bill 1191

By: Representatives O'Steen of the 169th, Bonner of the 73rd, Hitchens of the 161st, Corbett of the 174th, Cannon of the 172nd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, so as
3 to provide for additional military medal awards eligible for special veteran license plates; to
4 provide for a specialty license plate for United States Navy submarine service members; to
5 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, is amended in Code
10 Section 40-2-85.1, relating to license plates for certain veterans, by revising paragraph (1)
11 of subsection (a) as follows:

12 "(1) 'Military medal award' means the following medals, decorations, or other recognition
13 of honor for military service awarded by a branch of the United States military:

14 (A) Medal of Honor;

15 (B) Bronze Star Medal;

16 (C) Silver Star Medal;

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- 17 (D) Distinguished Service Cross;
18 (E) Navy Cross;
19 (F) Air Force Cross;
20 (G) Defense Distinguished Service Medal;
21 (H) Homeland Security Distinguished Service Medal;
22 (I) Distinguished Service Medal;
23 (J) Navy Distinguished Service Medal;
24 (K) Air Force Distinguished Service Medal;
25 (L) Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal;
26 (M) Defense Superior Service Medal;
27 (N) Legion of Merit;
28 (O) Distinguished Flying Cross;
29 (P) Purple Heart;
30 (Q) Air Medal;
31 (R) Soldier's Medal; and
32 (S) Meritorious Service Medal;
33 (T) Navy Corps Medal;
34 (U) Marine Corps Medal;
35 (V) Airman's Medal; and
36 (W) Coast Guard Medal."

37 **SECTION 2.**

38 Said article is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

39 "40-2-85.5.

40 (a)(1) Motor vehicle owners who are members of the United States Navy submarine
41 service shall be eligible to receive special and distinctive vehicle license plates for private
42 passenger cars, trucks, motorcycles, or recreational vehicles used for personal

43 transportation. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with the state motor
44 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as prescribed in
45 Article 2 of this chapter.

46 (2) Motor vehicle owners who are retired members of the United States Navy submarine
47 service shall be eligible to receive special and distinctive vehicle license plates for private
48 passenger cars, trucks, motorcycles, or recreational vehicles used for personal
49 transportation. Such license plates shall be issued in compliance with the state motor
50 vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles as prescribed in
51 Article 2 of this chapter.

52 (3) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates issued pursuant to paragraph (2) of
53 this subsection shall contain the word 'RETIRED' in the location of and in lieu of the
54 name of the county of issuance.

55 (b) A person who qualifies for the special and distinctive license plate pursuant to
56 subsection (a) of this Code section shall make application therefor with the commissioner
57 and include the requisite fee. The commissioner shall design a distinctive license plate as
58 provided in subsection (c) of this Code section and issue the distinctive license plates to
59 qualifying applicants. There shall be no minimum required number of applicants for such
60 distinctive license plate. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules and regulations
61 as may be necessary to enforce compliance with all state license laws relating to the use
62 and operation of private passenger cars and trucks before issuing these license plates in lieu
63 of the regular Georgia license plates. The additional manufacturing fee for such special
64 and distinctive license plates shall be \$25.00. The commissioner is specifically authorized
65 to promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to ensure compliance in instances where
66 such vehicles have been transferred or sold.

67 (c) The special and distinctive vehicle license plates issued by this Code section shall be
68 as prescribed in Article 2 of this chapter for private passenger cars, trucks, motorcycles, or
69 recreational vehicles used for personal transportation, except that the commissioner shall

70 include a special design to identify the owner as a member of the United States Navy
71 submarine service.
72 (d) The license plate issued pursuant to this Code section shall be transferred between
73 vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-80."

74 **SECTION 3.**

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