

Senate Bill 165

By: Senators Gooch of the 51st, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Beach of the 21st, Miller of the 49th, Ginn of the 47th and others

**AS PASSED**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 40-2-151 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 annual license fees for operation of vehicles, so as to reduce the registration fee charged to  
3 low-speed alternative fueled vehicles; to amend Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code  
4 of Georgia Annotated, relating to equipment and inspection of motor vehicles, so as to  
5 exempt certain autonomous vehicles from certain equipment standards; to require the display  
6 of a reflective emblem or the use of strobe light while operating a slow-moving or low-speed  
7 vehicle; to provide for issuance of a permit relating to operation of an amber strobe light  
8 upon a low-speed vehicle; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and  
9 applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Code Section 40-2-151 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the annual  
13 license fees for operation of vehicles, is amended by revising subparagraph (a)(19)(A) as  
14 follows:

15       “(19)(A)(i) Upon registration of an alternative fueled vehicle not operated  
16       for commercial purposes . . . . . 200.00  
17       (ii) Upon registration of an alternative fueled vehicle operated for  
18       commercial purposes . . . . . 300.00  
19       (iii) Upon registration of an alternative fueled vehicle that is a low-speed  
20       vehicle . . . . . 100.00”

**SECTION 2.**

22 Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to equipment and  
23 inspection of motor vehicles, is amended by revising Code Section 40-8-1, relating to  
24 application of article, by revising subsection (b) as follows:

25       “(b) Unless otherwise required by federal law, rule, or regulation, a fully autonomous  
26       vehicle that is designed to be operated exclusively by the automated driving system for all  
27       trips shall not be subject to any provisions of this article that relate to or support motor  
28       vehicle operation by a human driver and are not relevant to the operation of an automated  
29       driving system.

30       “(c) Nothing in this article shall be construed to prohibit the use of additional parts and  
31       accessories on any vehicle, which use is not inconsistent with the provisions of this article.”

**SECTION 3.**

33 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 40-8-4, relating to emblem to be displayed  
34 on certain slow-moving vehicles or equipment operating on public roads, as follows:

35       “40-8-4.

36       (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate upon the public roads of this state any  
37       slow-moving vehicle or equipment, any farm trailer or semitrailer which is used for  
38       agricultural purposes and which would otherwise be exempt from this article as an  
39       implement of husbandry under Code Section 40-8-1, any animal drawn vehicle, or any

40 machinery designed for use and generally operated at speeds less than 25 miles per hour,  
 41 including all road construction or maintenance equipment and machinery except when  
 42 engaged in actual construction or maintenance procedures and all other construction  
 43 equipment and machinery, unless there is displayed on the rear thereof an emblem which  
 44 shall comply with subsection (b) of this Code section or an amber strobe light operated in  
 45 compliance with Code Section 40-8-35. It shall also be unlawful to operate upon the public  
 46 roads of this state without such an emblem any three-wheeled motorcycle used only for  
 47 agricultural purposes unless such three-wheeled motorcycle is licensed as required by  
 48 Chapter 2 of this title and is in compliance with all other requirements of this chapter.

49 (b) The emblem required by subsection (a) of this Code section shall conform with those  
 50 standards and specifications adopted for slow-moving vehicles by the American Society  
 51 of Agricultural Engineers in December, 1966, and contained within such society's standard  
 52 ASAE S276.1, or shall be an emblem of the same shape and size painted on such vehicle  
 53 in a bright and conspicuous retroreflective red orange paint. Such emblem shall be  
 54 mounted on the rear of such vehicles, in the approximate horizontal geometric center of the  
 55 vehicle, at a height of three to five feet above the roadway, and shall be maintained at all  
 56 times in a clean and reflective condition.

57 (c) Any person violating this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

58 (d) Nothing in this Code section shall apply to any self-propelled, two-wheeled vehicle."

59

#### SECTION 4.

60 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 40-8-35, relating to operating  
 61 low-speed vehicles on highway requires amber strobe light, as follows:

62 "40-8-35.

63 (a) Any low-speed vehicle operated on the highways of this state without a properly  
 64 affixed emblem conforming to the requirements of Code Section 40-8-4 shall display an  
 65 amber strobe light so as to warn approaching travelers to decrease their speed because of

66 the danger of colliding with such vehicle. Such amber strobe light shall be mounted in a  
67 manner so as to be visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet  
68 from the front and rear of such vehicle.

69 (b) Any permit required for compliance with this Code section shall be issued by a county  
70 tag agent upon registration of such vehicle."

71 **SECTION 5.**

72 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021, and Section 1 of this Act shall be applicable  
73 to vehicle registrations occurring on or after July 1, 2021.

74 **SECTION 6.**

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