

House Bill 175 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Daniel of the 117th, Mathiak of the 74th, Crowe of the 118th, Jasperse of the 11th, and Corbett of the 174th

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 to
3 provide for the design and issuance of a distinctive license plate for state constitutional
4 officers and members of the Public Service Commission; to provide a definition; to provide
5 for the design of special license plates issued to retired members of the active reserve
6 components and the Georgia National Guard; to establish a specialty license plate honoring
7 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; to establish a specialty license plate honoring Alpha Phi
8 Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; to amend Code Section 48-5-478 of the Official Code of Georgia
9 Annotated, relating to constitutional exemption from motor vehicle ad valorem taxation for
10 disabled veterans, so as to remove a requirement that a motor vehicle display a certain license
11 plate in order to qualify for an exemption from ad valorem taxation; to limit applicability of
12 such exemption to a single vehicle; to provide for clarification that such exemption applies
13 to alternative title ad valorem taxes; to authorize the adoption of rules and regulations; to
14 provide for related matters; to provide for compliance with constitutional requirements; to
15 provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

17

18 **SECTION 1.**

19 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
20 prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, is amended by
21 revising Code Section 40-2-61, relating to special license plates for U.S. Senators and
22 Congressmen, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of House of Representatives,
23 Justices of Supreme Court, and Judges of Court of Appeals, as follows:

24 "40-2-61.

25 The commissioner shall design and issue distinctive license plates to each United States
26 Senator and Congressman elected from the State of Georgia, ~~the Governor, the Lieutenant~~
27 ~~Governor~~ each state constitutional officer, the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
28 ~~and~~ each Justice of the Supreme Court and each Judge of the Court of Appeals, and each
29 member of the Public Service Commission to be placed on such official's personal motor
30 vehicle. Each such distinctive license plate shall indicate the individual's elected office and
31 no county name decal need be affixed to such plate as required pursuant to Code
32 Section 40-2-9. The special license plate authorized by this Code section shall be issued
33 to such elected official upon application and payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 and
34 upon compliance with the state laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles
35 and shall be transferred as provided in Code Section 40-2-80. Distinctive license plates
36 issued pursuant to this Code section shall be renewed annually, and revalidation decals
37 shall be issued upon compliance with the laws relating to registration and licensing and
38 upon payment of an additional registration fee of \$35.00 which shall be collected by the
39 county tag agent at the time for collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted
40 to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. For purposes of this Code section, the
41 term 'state constitutional officer' means the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of
42 State, Attorney General, State School Superintendent, Commissioner of Insurance,
43 Commissioner of Agriculture, or Commissioner of Labor."

44 **SECTION 2.**

45 Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-65, relating to special license plates for
46 members of active reserve components of the United States, by adding a new paragraph to
47 subsection (a) to read as follows:

48 "(3) The license plates issued pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection shall contain
49 the word 'RETIRED' in the location of and in lieu of the name of the county of issuance."

50 **SECTION 3.**

51 Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-66, relating to special license plates for
52 members of Georgia National Guard, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) to read as
53 follows:

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

56 **SECTION 4.**

57 Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-86, relating to special license plates
58 promoting or supporting certain worthy agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations with
59 proceeds disbursed to the general fund and the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation, by
60 adding two new paragraphs to subsection (l) to read as follows:

61 "(69) A special license plate to support members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
62 The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to
63 Southeastern Education & Leadership Foundation (SELF).

64 (70) A special license plate honoring Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The funds raised
65 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Alpha Georgia Education
66 Foundation, Inc."

67 **SECTION 5.**

68 Code Section 48-5-478 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to constitutional
69 exemption from motor vehicle ad valorem taxation for disabled veterans, is amended by
70 revising subsection (a) as follows:

71 "(a) A motor vehicle owned by or leased to a disabled veteran who is a citizen and resident
72 of this state ~~and on which such disabled veteran actually places the free disabled veteran~~
73 ~~motor vehicle license plate he or she receives pursuant to Code Section 40-2-69~~ is hereby
74 exempted from all ad valorem taxes for state, county, municipal, and school purposes,
75 including any alternative title ad valorem tax assessed pursuant to Code Section 48-5C-1.
76 Such exemption shall be applicable to a single motor vehicle owned by or leased to a
77 disabled veteran. As used in this Code section, the term 'disabled veteran' shall have the
78 same meaning as that term is defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code
79 Section 48-5-48. The department may issue such rules and regulations as are necessary to
80 implement this subsection."

81 **SECTION 6.**

82 In accordance with the requirements of Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the
83 Constitution of the State of Georgia, this Act shall not become law unless it receives the
84 requisite two-thirds' majority vote in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

85 **SECTION 7.**

86 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2024.

87 **SECTION 8.**

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