House Bill 1055 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Levitas of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Rice of the 51<sup>st</sup>, Ramsey of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Cole of the 125<sup>th</sup>, and Smith of the 131<sup>st</sup>

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1 To amend provisions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated relating to fees; to change 2 the amount of the fees; to provide for new fees; to provide for promulgation of rules and 3 regulations regarding fees; to change fees and certain other provisions regarding special 4 license plates; to provide for the retention of certain fees by state agencies or other entities; to change fees and certain other provisions regarding bona fide coin operated amusement 5 6 machines; to correct cross-references in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated; to amend 7 Chapter 8 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the care and 8 protection of indigent and elderly patients, so as to provide for a payment to be imposed on 9 hospitals to be used to obtain federal financial participation for medical assistance payments 10 under Medicaid; to provide for a short title; to provide for definitions; to establish a 11 segregated account within the Indigent Care Trust Fund for the deposit of provider payments; 12 to provide for a method for calculating and collecting the provider payment; to authorize the 13 Department of Community Health to inspect hospital records for purposes of auditing 14 provider payments; to provide for penalties for failure to pay a provider payment; to authorize the Department of Community Health to withhold Medicaid payments equal to 15 amounts owed as a provider payment and penalty; to provide for the collection of payments 16 17 by civil action and tax liens; to provide for the appropriation of funds in the segregated account for medical assistance payments; to provide for application of the "Georgia Medical 18 Assistance Act of 1977"; to provide for automatic repeal of such amendments to said Chapter 19 8; to amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and 20 21 taxation, so as to revise and change certain provisions regarding the manner and time of 22 making the state ad valorem tax levy and gradually eliminate such levy over a period of time; to provide for applicability; to provide that such provisions shall not abate or affect 23 24 prosecutions, punishments, penalties, administrative proceedings or remedies, or civil actions related to certain violations; to provide for a complete exclusion of certain retirement income 25 from Georgia taxable net income over a period of time; to provide for related matters; to 26 provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes. 27

28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

29	PART I
30	SECTION 1-1.
31	Title 2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to agriculture, is amended by
32	revising Code Section 2-1-5, relating to license fees for grain dealers, commercial feed
33	dealers, and grain warehousemen, as follows:
34	"2-1-5.
35	An individual conducting business as a grain dealer, commercial feed dealer, and grain
36	warehouseman shall pay an annual license fee in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 less
37	than \$1,500.00 nor more than \$3,000.00. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section
38	shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."
39	SECTION 1-2.
40	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 2-2-8.1, relating to the Farmers and
41	Consumers Market Bulletin, as follows:
42	"2-2-8.1.
43	The Commissioner is authorized to publicize and request, by means of publication of
44	appropriate notices in the Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin and the Poultry Market
45	<u>News</u> , contributions to be used exclusively for the compilation, publication, printing, and
46	distribution of the Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin and the Poultry Market News.
47	Any voluntary contribution made for such purpose shall be received by the Commissioner,
48	shall be separately accounted for, need not be deposited in the state treasury, and shall be
49	used and expended solely for the purpose donated."
50	SECTION 1-3.
51	Said title is further amended by revising subsection (f) of Code Section 2-7-55, relating to
52	registration of pesticides, as follows:
53	"(f) The applicant desiring to register a pesticide shall pay an annual registration fee to the
54	Commissioner for each pesticide registered for such applicant. The amount of such fee
55	shall be established by the Commissioner in an amount not to exceed \$100.00 less than
56	\$100.00 nor more than \$200.00 per annum. All such registrations shall expire on
57	December 31 of any one year, provided that if the Commissioner adopts a multiple-year
58	registration period, the annual registration fee per product shall be compounded for the
59	number of years included in the multiple-year registration. A registration for a special local
60	need pursuant to subsection (i) of this Code section which is disapproved by the
61	administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall expire on the effective date of

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62 the administrator's disapproval. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be

retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1." 63

64 **SECTION 1-4.** 

- 65 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 2-7-57, relating to
- licensing of restricted use pesticide dealers, as follows: 66
- 67 "(b) Application for a license shall be accompanied by a \$15.00 \$55.00 annual license fee,
- 68 shall be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and shall include the full name of the
- 69 person applying for such license. If the applicant is a partnership, association, corporation,
- 70 or organized group of persons, the full name of each member of the firm or partnership or
- 71 the names of the principal officers of the association or corporation shall be given on the
- application. Such application shall further state the address of the outlet to be licensed, the 72
- 73 principal business address of the applicant, and any other necessary information prescribed
- 74 by the Commissioner. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained
- pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1." 75

76 **SECTION 1-4.1.** 

- Said title is further amended by repealing Code Section 2-7-66, relating to disposition of 77
- 78 pesticide funds, and designating it as "Reserved."

79 **SECTION 1-4.2.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 2-7-71, relating to 80
- 81 judicial actions after service of a stop sale, use, or removal order on a pesticide dealer or
- 82 device, as follows:
- "(b) If the pesticide or device is condemned, after entry of decree it shall be disposed of 83
- by destruction or sale as the court directs; and if such pesticide or device is sold, the 84
- 85 proceeds, less costs, including legal costs, shall be paid to the state treasury as provided in
- Code Section 2-7-66 retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1, 86
- provided that the pesticide or device shall not be sold contrary to this article or regulations
- adopted hereunder. Upon payment of costs and execution and delivery of a good and 89 sufficient bond conditioned that the pesticide or device shall not be disposed of unlawfully,
- 90 the court may direct that the pesticide or device be delivered to the owner thereof for
- 91 relabeling, reprocessing, removal from the state, or otherwise bringing the product into
- 92 compliance."

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**SECTION 1-5.** 

Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and subparagraph (b)(2)(C) of Code Section 2-7-99, relating to a pesticide contractor's license, as follows:

"(1) REQUIRED; ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT; FEE. No person shall engage in the business of contracting for the application of any pesticide to the lands of another within this state at any time without a pesticide contractor's license issued by the Commissioner for each business location. In addition to the pesticide contractor's license, each business location must maintain, in full-time employment during all periods of operation, at least one certified commercial pesticide applicator. The Commissioner shall require an annual fee of \$15.00 \$55.00 for each pesticide contractor's license issued. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

"(C) Issuance; fees; renewal. If the Commissioner finds the applicant qualified to apply pesticides in the classification or classifications he or she has applied for, the Commissioner shall issue a certified commercial pesticide applicator's license. Effective August 21, 1980, all new certified commercial pesticide applicator licenses shall be issued for a period of five years from the date of certification. The fee for the five-year license shall be \$25.00 \$90.00. Licenses shall be subject to renewal on the day following expiration, based on such recertification requirements as the Commissioner may establish by regulation, provided that all such licenses previously issued on an annual basis and expiring December 31, 1980, shall be renewable January 1, 1981, for the remaining portion of their five-year certification period. Fees for such license renewals shall be:

	·		Data	
Τ	хрп	ation	Date	01

117	<b>Current Certification</b>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
118	February 20	<del>\$</del>	<del>\$11.00</del>	<del>\$16.00</del>	<del>\$21.00</del>
119	April 20		<del>12.00</del>	<del>17.00</del>	<del>21.00</del>
120	<del>June 20</del>		<del>13.00</del>	18.00	<del>23.00</del>
121	August 20		<del>14.00</del>	<del>19.00</del>	<del>24.00</del>
122	<del>October 20</del>	10.00	<del>15.00</del>	<del>20.00</del>	
123	<del>December 20</del>	10.00	<del>15.00</del>	<del>20.00</del>	

**SECTION 1-6.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 2-9-33, relating to licenses for grain dealers, as follows:

127 "2-9-33.

Unless the Commissioner refuses the application on one or more of the grounds provided in Code Section 2-9-36, he or she shall issue to an applicant, upon the execution and delivery of a bond as provided in Code Section 2-9-34, a state license entitling the applicant to conduct business as a dealer in grain. A fee in an amount fixed by rule or regulation of the Commissioner at not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$100.00 \$150.00 per annum shall be charged for such license. All such licenses shall be renewed annually on or before June 30. Any license which is not renewed on or before such date shall expire on June 30. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

**SECTION 1-7.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 2-11-26, relating to licenses for retail and wholesale seed dealers, as follows:

"(a) For the purpose of carrying out this article, the Commissioner, who may act through his or her authorized agents, is authorized to issue a license to each retail and wholesale seed dealer, such license to be applied for by each seed dealer upon forms furnished for such purpose. A separate license shall be required for each point of sale, from which seed are sold, offered for sale, or exposed for sale. Out-of-state wholesale and retail seed dealers who sell or ship seed into this state shall obtain a license in the same manner. Such licenses shall be renewable in August of every third year following issuance. Seed dealer license fees shall be established by rule promulgated under this article. A fee in an amount fixed by rule or regulation of the Commissioner at not less than \$70.00 nor more than \$100.00 per annum shall be charged for such license. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

**SECTION 1-8.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) and paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Code Section 2-12-4, relating to fertilizer licenses, as follows:

"(a) No person whose name appears upon the label of a fertilizer shall distribute that fertilizer in Georgia until a fertilizer license has been obtained from the Commissioner. All licenses expire on the thirtieth day of June each year. The license fee shall be \$50.00 \$100.00 per year, and must be renewed annually with fees paid by July 1 of each year. If the license renewal fee is not paid by July 1, the applicable license fee shall increase in the manner prescribed by regulation. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall

be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

"(c)(1) No licensee shall distribute in this state a specialty fertilizer until it is registered with the Commissioner by the licensee whose name appears on the label, provided that custom-mixed specialty fertilizer shall not be required to be registered. An application for registration for each brand of each grade of specialty fertilizer shall be made on a form furnished by or otherwise acceptable to the Commissioner. Labels for each brand of each grade shall accompany the application. For all specialty products sold in container sizes of ten pounds or less, the annual registration fee shall be \$50.00 \$60.00 for each brand of each grade. Such fee shall be submitted with the registration and a renewal fee of \$50.00 \$60.00 shall be due each July 1."

170 **SECTION 1-9.** 

- 171 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 2-12-8, relating to
- 172 fertilizer inspection fees, as follows:
- 173 "(a) There shall be paid to the Commissioner for all fertilizer distributed in this state to
- nonlicensees an inspection fee at the rate of  $\frac{30\psi}{60\psi}$  per ton, provided that sales or
- exchanges between licensees and sales of containers of ten pounds or less are exempted
- from such fee; and provided, further, that the Commissioner may exempt by regulation
- certain other types of fertilizer from the inspection fee, when deemed appropriate. Any
- fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of
- 179 <u>Code Section 45-12-92.1."</u>

180 **SECTION 1-10.** 

- 181 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 2-12-43, relating to licensing
- agricultural liming material, as follows:
- 183 "2-12-43.

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- (a)(1) Each person whose name appears on the label of an agricultural liming material
- or who is responsible for guaranteeing such liming material must obtain a lime license
- from the Commissioner before distributing such product in Georgia.
- 187 (2) All licenses shall expire on June 30 of each year. The application for a license shall
- be submitted to the Commissioner on forms furnished by or otherwise acceptable to the
- 189 Commissioner. Upon approval by the Commissioner, a copy of the license shall be
- furnished to the applicant. A new licensee shall pay a license fee of \$50.00 \$70.00.
- Thereafter, the license fee shall be based on the annual tonnage of liming materials sold
- in Georgia by the licensee in the previous 12 month period ending June 30, in accordance
- with the following:
- (A) A \$100.00 annual fee for licensees having sales of 10,000 tons or more of liming
- materials in this state; or

(B) A \$50.00 \$70.00 annual fee for licensees having sales of less than 10,000 tons of liming materials in this state.

A lime license must be renewed annually and fees shall be received by July 1 of each calendar year, or the applicable license fee shall increase in the manner prescribed in the rules and regulations. Such license may be revoked for cause, after due notice and hearing, for a violation of this article or any rules or regulations adopted by the Commissioner pursuant to this article. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1.

(b)(1) No licensee shall distribute in this state an agricultural liming material until such product is registered with the Commissioner by the licensee whose name appears on the label. An application for registration for each brand and product name of liming materials shall be made on forms furnished by or otherwise acceptable to the Commissioner. Labels for each brand and product name shall accompany the application. The registration fee shall be \$50.00 \$70.00 per product. Such fee shall be submitted with the registration, and a renewal fee of \$50.00 \$70.00 shall be due each July 1. If renewal registration fees are not received by July 1 of each calendar year, the registration fee shall increase in the manner prescribed in the rules and regulations. Upon approval by the Commissioner, a copy of the registration shall be furnished to the applicant. Such registrations shall be considered permanent so long as no changes or deviations are made in the labels of such products and so long as the registration fees are paid as specified in this article and the rules and regulations of the Commissioner. Such registrations may be canceled for cause, after due notice and hearing, for a violation of this article or any rules and regulations adopted by the Commissioner pursuant to this article.

(2) A distributor shall not be required to register any brand of agricultural liming material which is already registered under this article by another person, provided the label does not differ in any respect."

**SECTION 1-11.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 2-12-73, relating to registration of soil amendments, as follows:

"(c) The registration fee shall be \$50.00 \$55.00 per year for each product. Registration shall expire on December 31, annually, unless an application for renewal has been received prior to the expiration date. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

229 **SECTION 1-12.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (b), (d), and (f) of Code Section 2-13-6, relating to a commercial feed license, as follows:

- "(b) All licenses shall expire on December 31 of each year. Licenses are not transferable and no credit or refund may be granted for licenses held for less than one full year. All commercial feed licenses must be renewed by January 1 of each year. The license fee shall be based upon the number of tons of commercial feed distributed in this state during the preceding 12 month period ending December 31, provided that tonnage of small-package products subject to registration as specified in subsection (d) of this Code section shall not be used in calculating the license fee due. The amount of the license fee shall be based upon the schedule as prescribed in the rules and regulations of the Commissioner but shall not be less than \$50.00 \$75.00 nor more than \$1,000.00 \$2,000.00 per annum. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code
- 242 <u>Section 45-12-92.1.</u>"

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- "(d) No licensee shall distribute in this state a pet food or a specialty pet food in packages 243 244 of ten pounds or less which has not been registered. The application for registration shall 245 be submitted to the Commissioner on forms furnished by, or acceptable to, the Commissioner. All registrations expire on December 31 of each year. An annual 246 247 registration fee of an amount prescribed in the rules and regulations of the Commissioner 248 is due by January 1. Such registration fee shall be \$25.00 \$40.00 per product registered, 249 provided that the total of all such registration fees shall not exceed \$1,000.00 \$2,000.00 per 250 annum for any licensee."
- 251 "(f) The license and registration fees provided by this Code section shall not exceed a total 252 amount of \$1,000.00 \$2,000.00 per annum for any licensee."

253 **SECTION 1-13.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (b) of Code Section 2-14-102, relating to a license for timber preservative treating, as follows:
- 256 "(a) Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the 257 provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1. Each person, firm, or corporation engaging in the 258 business of treating timber or timber products with preservatives in this state shall secure 259 an annual processor's license from the Commissioner of Agriculture before such treatment 260 is undertaken. The annual fee for this license shall be \$25.00 \$120.00.
- 261 (b) Each person, firm, or corporation shipping into the state for sale or bringing into the state for sale any treated timber or timber products processed outside the state shall secure an annual dealer's license from the Commissioner. The annual fee for this license shall be \$25.00 \$120.00."

265 **SECTION 1-14.** 

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Said title is further amended by revising subsection (e) of Code Section 2-21-4, relating to registration of organic products, as follows:

"(e) On and after January 1, 2003, no person shall produce, process, distribute, or handle in this state any advertised, promoted, identified, tagged, stamped, packaged, or labeled organic food or feed ingredient, article, commodity, or product unless such person has first registered with the department; provided, however, that retail food sales establishments licensed under Article 2 of this chapter that do not process or repackage certified organic commodities shall be exempt from registration provisions set forth in this chapter. On and after January 1, 2003, no organization, business, firm, or individual shall act as a certifying entity in this state unless such organization, business, firm, or individual has first registered with the department. The Commissioner shall establish by regulation registration standards for producers, processors, distributors, handlers, and certifying entities not inconsistent with this chapter. Registration shall be made upon forms prescribed and furnished by the department. Registrations shall expire on the last day of December of the year for which they are issued. The Commissioner shall establish by rule a registration fee for certifying entities in an amount of not less than  $\frac{$25.00}{500}$  nor more than  $\frac{$500.00}{1000}$  per annum and may establish classes of certifying entities with different registration fees for each class. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

285 **SECTION 1-15.** 

Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to animals, is amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 4-4-82, relating to licenses for poultry dealers, brokers, and market operators, as follows:

"(a) No poultry market operator shall engage in or carry on such business without first applying for and obtaining a license from the Commissioner. No poultry dealer or broker shall engage in or carry on such business without first applying for and obtaining a license from the Commissioner. There shall be a fee of \$25.00 \$35.00 per annum for such license.

293 Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions

294 <u>of Code Section 45-12-92.1."</u>

295 **SECTION 1-16.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 4-10-5, relating to licensing of bird dealers, as follows:

"(b) Bird dealers' licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be annually renewable. The department may establish separate classes of licenses, including wholesale

and retail licenses. The department shall fix fees for licenses so that the revenue derived from licenses shall approximate the total direct and indirect costs of administering this chapter; but the annual fee for any such license shall be at least \$25.00 \$50.00 but shall not exceed \$200.00 \$400.00. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

**SECTION 1-17.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 4-11-3, relating to licensing of pet dealers and kennel, stable, and animal shelter operators, as follows:

"(c) Licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be annually renewable. The Commissioner may establish separate classes of licenses, including wholesale and retail licenses. The Commissioner shall fix fees for licenses so that the revenue derived from licenses shall approximate the total direct cost of administering this article. The Commissioner may establish different fees for the different classes of licenses established, but the annual fee for any such license shall be at least \$25.00 \$50.00 but shall not exceed \$200.00 \$400.00. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

**SECTION 1-18.** 

Title 7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to banking and finance, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (b) Code Section 7-1-1011, relating to fees paid by mortgage lenders and mortgage brokers, as follows:

"(2) There shall be imposed on the closing of every mortgage loan subject to regulation under this article which, as defined in Code Section 7-1-1000, includes all mortgage loans, whether or not closed by a mortgage broker or mortgage lender licensee or registrant, a fee of \$6.50 \$10.00. The fee shall be paid by the borrower to the collecting agent at the time of closing of the mortgage loan transaction. The collecting agent shall remit the fee to the department at the time and in the manner specified by regulation of the department. Revenue collected by the department pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in the general fund of the state."

**SECTION 1-19.** 

Title 8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to buildings and housing, is amended by revising paragraph (5) of Code Section 8-2-135, relating to licenses for manufacturers of manufactured homes, as follows:

"(5) The license and renewal license fee shall be \$\frac{\$300.00}{200.00}\$ per manufacturing plant which manufactures manufactured homes within the State of Georgia; \$\frac{\$300.00}{200.00}\$

\$440.00 per out-of-state manufacturing plant which manufactures manufactured homes for the purpose of offering for sale, or having such homes sold, within the State of Georgia; and \$200.00 \$300.00 per retailer location and retail broker which sells, offers for sale, or transports to sell such homes within the State of Georgia. The license shall be valid from January 1 through December 31 of the year in which it was issued. The fee for delinquent renewal applications received after January 10 of each year shall be double the regular annual renewal fee."

**SECTION 1-20.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 8-2-135.1, relating to the payment of a manufacturing inspection fee by manufactured home manufacturers, as follows:

"(a) During such time as the Commissioner's office is acting as the primary inspection agency pursuant to Section 623 of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. Section 5401, et seq., or the regulations issued thereunder, every manufacturer who manufactures manufactured homes in Georgia shall pay to the Commissioner a manufacturing inspection fee for each manufactured home manufactured in Georgia, irrespective of whether the manufactured home is offered for sale in this state. This manufacturing inspection fee shall be \$20.00 \$30.00 for each certification label, as defined in Section 623 of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. Section 5401, et seq. For any reinspection, a \$10.00 \$15.00 additional fee shall be charged."

**SECTION 1-21.** 

Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of Code Section 8-2-161, relating to rules regulating installations of manufactured homes and mobile homes, as follows:

"(1) Establish rules and procedures for the licensure of installers as provided by Code Section 8-2-164 and the implementation and collection of an annual license fee, which shall be \$200.00 \$300.00; and"

**SECTION 1-22.** 

Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (2) of Code Section 8-2-164, relating to licensing installers of manufactured homes and mobile homes, as follows:

"(2) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (1) of this Code section, any installer performing any installation of any new or pre-owned manufactured or mobile home in this state shall first purchase a permit from the Commissioner. The cost of such permit shall be \$40.00 \$60.00 for each manufactured or mobile home. Each installer shall

provide any information required by the Commissioner to be submitted to obtain a permit. A permit shall be attached by the installer to the panel box of each manufactured or mobile home upon completion of installation."

**SECTION 1-23.** 

- 372 Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to commerce and trade, is
- amended by revising Code Section 10-1-157, relating to inspections of samples of petroleum
- 374 products, as follows:
- 375 "10-1-157.

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- 376 The Commissioner of Agriculture shall, from time to time, collect or cause to be collected
- samples of all petroleum products subject to regulation under this part which are sold,
- offered, or exposed for sale in this state and cause such samples to be tested or analyzed
- by the state oil chemist. The state oil chemist shall certify, under oath, an analysis of each
- such sample and such certificate shall be competent evidence of the composition of such
- petroleum product in any legal proceeding. The Department of Agriculture shall have the
- power to implement rules and regulations necessary to carry out inspection of gasoline
- samples as provided for by this Code section."

384 **SECTION 1-24.** 

- 385 Said title is further amended by adding a new subsection to Code Section 10-1-159, relating
- to inspections of self-measuring pumps, as follows:
- 387 "(g) The Department of Agriculture shall have the power to implement rules and
- regulations necessary to carry out inspections of self-measuring pumps provided for by this
- 389 <u>Code section.</u>"
- 390 **SECTION 1-25.**
- 391 Said title is further amended by repealing Code Section 10-1-161, relating to inspection of
- 392 gasoline, and designating it as "Reserved."
- 393 **SECTION 1-26.**
- 394 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 10-1-203, relating to evaluation of test
- reports of antifreeze offered for sale within this state, as follows:
- 396 "10-1-203.
- 397 Before any antifreeze shall be sold, exposed for sale, or stored, packed, or held with intent
- 398 to sell within this state, a current certified test report thereof prepared by an independent
- laboratory recognized by the Department of Agriculture to do such testing must be
- submitted and evaluated under the supervision of the state oil chemist in the Department

of Agriculture. Upon application of the manufacturer or packer or distributor, submission of container label, and the payment of a license fee of \$25.00 \$50.00 for each brand or type of antifreeze submitted, the state oil chemist shall evaluate the test report so submitted. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1. If the antifreeze is not adulterated or misbranded, if it meets the standards established and promulgated by the Commissioner of Agriculture, and if the antifreeze is not a type or kind that is in violation of this part, the Commissioner shall issue the applicant a written license or permit authorizing the wholesale and retail sale by the applicant and by others of such antifreeze in this state for the fiscal year in which the license is issued, which license or permit shall be subject to renewal annually. If the Commissioner shall find at a later date that the antifreeze product or substance to be sold, exposed for sale, or held with intent to sell has been materially altered or adulterated or that a change has been made in the name, brand, or trademark under which the antifreeze is sold or that it violates this part, the Commissioner is authorized to revoke or suspend the license or permit issued under this part of the licensee found in violation of this part after notice and hearing before the Commissioner. No license or permit for the sale of antifreeze in this state shall be issued until the application, fee, and label submission have been made as provided by this part, the certified test report has been evaluated by the state oil chemist, and the state oil chemist notifies the Commissioner of Agriculture that said antifreeze meets the requirements of this part."

**SECTION 1-27.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 10-2-42, relating to licensing certified public weighers, as follows:

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Certified public weighers shall be licensed for a period of one year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30, next. A fee of \$5.00 \$15.00 shall be paid to the Commissioner by each person so licensed at the time application is filed. A fee of \$5.00 \$15.00 shall be required for each renewal of a license as a certified public weigher. In addition thereto, the applicant shall pay the actual cost of seals required under this article. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

432 **SECTION 1-28.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 10-4-12, relating to a warehouseman's bond, as follows:

"(a) Every person intending to engage in business as a warehouseman under this article shall, prior to commencing such business and periodically thereafter as the Commissioner shall require, execute and file with the Commissioner a good and sufficient bond to the state to secure the faithful performance of his or her obligation as a warehouseman under the terms of this article and the rules and regulations prescribed under this article, such bond to be computed in direct ratio to the licensed storage capacity of the warehouse bonded. The bond shall be executed by a surety corporation authorized to transact business in this state and approved by the Commissioner. Such bond shall be upon forms prescribed by the Commissioner. Any and all bond applications shall be accompanied by a certificate of 'good standing' issued by the Commissioner of Insurance. If any company issuing a bond shall be removed from doing business in this state, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Insurance to notify the Commissioner of Agriculture within 30 days. The Commissioner shall have authority to fix the bond for any part of licensed storage capacity of the warehouse being used; but in no event shall the amount of the bond be required to exceed 12 15 percent of the value of the products stored and the bond shall be in such form and amount and shall have such surety or sureties, subject to service of process in actions on the bonds with this state, as the Commissioner may prescribe; provided, however, the minimum bond to be posted for each warehouse shall be \$20,000.00 and the maximum bond to be required for each warehouse shall be \$150,000.00 \$300,000.00."

454 **SECTION 1-29.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 10-4-17, relating to licensing for warehouses, as follows:

457 "10-4-17.

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Warehousemen coming under this article shall pay an annual license fee which includes all inspections in an amount based on storage capacity in an amount fixed by rule or regulation of the Commissioner. These fees shall not exceed actual cost of inspections and are inclusive. The amount paid shall be based on storage capacity and shall be at least \$500.00 \$600.00 and no more than \$2,000.00 \$2,500.00 for grain or cotton warehouses and \$500.00 \$600.00 to \$1,000.00 \$2,500.00 for other agricultural products facilities desiring to come under this article. Each license so issued shall expire on June 30 of each year, and each application for license must be accompanied by the license fee. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

468 **SECTION 1-30.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 10-4-101, relating to licensing fees for the sale of flue-cured leaf tobacco, as follows:

471 "10-4-101.

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No person, real or corporate, shall operate, hold, or conduct an auction sale for the sale of flue-cured leaf tobacco within this state without first having obtained a license for the regular selling season in which the sale is made from the Commissioner of Agriculture. Each license so issued shall automatically expire at the end of the regular selling season. The regular selling season shall be deemed to have ended at the close of business on the marketing day any regulatory group or committee shall cause any of the sets of buyers normally assigned to the Georgia flue-cured leaf tobacco auction markets to be withdrawn for the purpose of reassigning them to auction markets in other tobacco belts. The Commissioner, in his or her discretion, may issue additional licenses to warehousemen at the end of the regular selling season as he or she deems necessary and desirable for 'clean-up' sales or special sales, such licenses to terminate at the conclusion of the 'clean-up' or special sale. The license fee shall be \$100.00 \$150.00 for each regular selling season with no additional fee for licenses issued for 'clean-up' or special sales. Licenses shall be subject to renewal from one regular selling season to another under such rules and regulations as the Commissioner shall prescribe. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

488 **SECTION 1-31.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 10-4-115, relating to a nonauction tobacco dealer's license, as follows:

"(a) Any person, firm, or corporation purchasing flue-cured leaf tobacco from producers other than at auction sales shall be required to apply to and obtain from the Commissioner of Agriculture a nonauction tobacco dealer's license prior to engaging in such purchase operations. Such license shall be renewable on an annual basis. There shall be an annual fee for each such license issued by the Commissioner. The amount of such fee shall be established by the Commissioner in an amount not to exceed \$100.00 \$150.00 per annum.

Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1. Each applicant for a nonauction tobacco dealer's license shall indicate in writing to the Commissioner each year before the first auction sale of the tobacco-selling season an intent to buy flue-cured leaf tobaccos from producers other than at auction in order to be eligible for a nonauction tobacco dealer's license for that selling season."

**SECTION 1-32.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 10-4-142, relating to a carry-over leaf tobacco storage and sale license, as follows:

506 "10-4-142.

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No person, real or corporate, shall operate a service for receiving within this state flue-cured leaf tobacco for the purpose of weighing, redrying, and storing said tobacco from the year of production until the subsequent selling season for sale at that time without first having obtained a license from the Commissioner of Agriculture. Each license so issued shall automatically expire at the termination of the storage period and be subject to renewal annually under such rules and regulations as the Commissioner shall prescribe. The license fee shall be \$10.00 \$40.00 for each year. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1. Licensed operators of flue-cured leaf tobacco auction warehouses may be licensed without cost under this part upon application to the Commissioner. This part shall not require licensing of any federal agency, its agents, or contractors who receive carry-over tobacco."

518 **SECTION 1-33.** 

- 519 Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conservation and natural
- resources, is amended by revising Code Section 12-6-93, relating to appropriations necessary
- 521 to carry out fire protection in forests, as follows:
- 522 "12-6-93.
- 523 (a) The funds required to carry out this part and provide for the coordinated protection of
- uncontrolled fire on all forest lands in the State of Georgia may be provided from annual
- appropriations made by the General Assembly for this purpose.
- 526 (b) In the event any county desires forest fire protection, the county shall enter into an
- agreement with the State Forestry Commission, and such agreement shall provide for the
- payment to the commission of 4¢ an amount reasonably related to the actual cost of
- 529 providing forest fire protection. Such amount shall be calculated per forest acre of
- privately owned forest land. Forest acres of privately owned land shall be based upon the
- most recent United States Forest Service survey for Georgia.
- 532 (c) Any agreement in existence on July 1, 1967 2010, between a county and the
- commission providing for a different percentage or amount of payment shall be changed
- so as to provide for the payment of 4¢ an amount reasonably related to the actual cost of
- 535 providing forest fire protection. Such amount shall be calculated per forest acre.
- (d) Any county may levy a tax to provide the additional funds required for fire protection
- 537 under this part."

538 SECTION 1-34. Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to corporations, partnerships, 539 540 and associations, is amended by revising Code Section 14-2-122, relating to fees for filings 541 related to business corporations, as follows: 542 "14-2-122. The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees and penalties when the documents 543 544 described in this Code section are delivered to him or her for filing: 545 Document <u>Fee</u> 546 \$ 100.00 547 225.00 548 549 25.00 550 No fee 551 No fee 552 (7) Articles of dissolution or intent to dissolve..... No fee 553 (8) Application of withdrawal...... No fee 554 (9) Application for reservation of a corporate name...... 25.00 555 (10) Civil penalty for a foreign corporation transacting business in this state 556 500.00 557 (11) Statement of change of address of registered agent...\$5.00 per 20.00 558 559 100.00 560 (13) Certificate of conversion..... 95.00 20.00" 561 (14) Any other document required or permitted to be filed by this chapter 562 SECTION 1-35. Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 14-9-1101, relating to fees for filings 563 related to limited partnerships, as follows: 564 "14-9-1101. 565 566 The Secretary of State shall charge and collect for filing: 567 **Document** <u>Fee</u> 568 \$ 100.00 225.00 569 570 571 25.00

572	(5) Agent's statement of resignation	No fee
573	(6) Certificate of cancellation	No fee
574	(7) Application of withdrawal	No fee
575	(8) Statement of change of address of registered agent or registered office	
576	\$5.00 per limited partnership but not less than	20.00
577	(9) An amendment to a certificate of limited partnership for the purpose of	
578	becoming a limited liability partnership	100.00
579	(10) Certificate of election to become a limited partnership	80.00
580	(11) Certificate of conversion	95.00
581	(12) Application for reservation of a name	25.00
582	(13) Any other document required or permitted pursuant to this chapter.	20.00"
583	SECTION 1-36.	
584	Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Co	de Section
585	14-10-4, relating to formation of professional associations, as follows:	
586	"(2) RECORDING; FEES. The clerk shall record the articles of association	n and any
587	amendments thereto or instruments of dissolution thereof in the same manner	as required
588	for articles of incorporation and shall receive a fee as required by paragra	<del>ph (17) of</del>
589	subsection (g) of Code Section 15-6-77. Articles shall not be required to be pu	ıblished or
590	recorded elsewhere. Such record of the articles, when so recorded, shall be no	otice of the
591	articles to the world as well as to all parties dealing with such association."	
592	SECTION 1-37.	
593	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 14-11-1101, relating to fees	for filings
594	related to limited liability companies, as follows:	
595	"14-11-1101.	
596	(a) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when the documents	
597	below are delivered to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to this chapter	:
598	<u>Document</u>	<u>Fee</u>
599	(1) Articles of organization	\$100.00
600	(2) Articles of amendment	20.00
601	(3) Articles of merger	20.00
602	(4) Certificate of election under Code Section 14-11-212 (together with	
603	articles of organization)	95.00
604	(5) Application for certificate of authority to transact business	225.00

605	(6) Statement of commencement of winding up	<u>e</u>
606	(7) Certificate of termination	<u>e</u>
607	(8) Application of withdrawal	e
608	(9) Articles of correction	C
609	(10) Application for reservation of a name	C
610	(11) Statement of change of registered office or registered agent\$5.00 per	
611	limited liability company (foreign or domestic), but not less than 20.00	C
612	(12) Registered agent's statement of resignation pursuant to subsection (d)	
613	of Code Section 14-11-209 or subsection (d) of Code Section 14-11-703. No fee	е
614	(13) Certificate of judicial dissolution	e
615	(14) Annual registration (foreign or domestic)	0
616	(15) Penalty for late filing of annual registration	C
617	(16) Reinstatement fee	C
618	(17) Any other document required or permitted to be filed by	
619	this chapter	С
620	(18) Certificate of conversion	С
621	(b) The Secretary of State shall collect the penalty provided for in paragraph (2) of	of
622	subsection (c) of Code Section 14-11-711."	
623	SECTION 1-38.	
624	Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, is amended by revisin	g
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	paragraph (2) of subsection (e) and subsections (g) and (h) of Code Section 15-6-77, relating	g
626	to fees for superior court, as follows:	
627	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a	.11
627 628	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in civ	.11 i1
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in civ cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such	ll il h
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in civ cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file succase or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part	ll il h
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in civ cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file succase or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained in	il il th
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li><li>632</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in cive cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such case or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to require advance payment of such sum by the state, in	ill il th
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li><li>632</li><li>633</li></ul>	"(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in cive cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such case or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained it this subsection shall be deemed to require advance payment of such sum by the state, it agencies, or political subdivisions."	il il th
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li><li>632</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in cive cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such case or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to require advance payment of such sum by the state, in	il il th
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li><li>632</li><li>633</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in cive cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such case or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to require advance payment of such sum by the state, in agencies, or political subdivisions."  "(g) Miscellaneous fees:  (1) Recording any instrument or writing, fee not otherwise specified, first	il il th
<ul><li>627</li><li>628</li><li>629</li><li>630</li><li>631</li><li>632</li><li>633</li><li>634</li></ul>	to fees for superior court, as follows:  "(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, the total sum for a services rendered by the clerk of the superior court through entry of judgment in civ cases shall be \$58.00. Such sum shall not be required if the party desiring to file such case or proceeding is unable, because of his indigence, to pay such sum and such part files with the clerk an affidavit to such effect, as provided by law. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be deemed to require advance payment of such sum by the state, in agencies, or political subdivisions."  "(g) Miscellaneous fees:	ill il

638	(2) Uncertified copies of documents, if no assistance is required from the	
639	office of the clerk of superior court, per page	<del>.25</del> <u>.50</u>
640	Uncertified copies, if assistance is required	1.00
641	Uncertified copies, if transmitted telephonically or electronically, first page	2.50
642	Each page, after the first	1.00
643	(3) Uncertified copies of documents, drawings, or plats, copy larger than	
644	8.5 x 14 inches	2.00
645	(4) Certification or exemplification of record, including certificates and	
646	seals, first page	2.50
647	Each page, after the first	.50
648	(5) Clerk's certificate	1.00
649	(6) Court's seal	1.00
650	(7) The clerk may provide computer data or computer generated printouts	
651	of public records subject to disclosure maintained on computer by, or	
652	available to, the clerk, for each page or partial page of printed data or copies	
653	of such or its equivalent	2.50
654	Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require any clerk to provide	
655	computer generated reports nor shall any clerk be required to prepare custom	
656	or individualized computer compilations or reports for any person or entity	
657	which would require preparation of a computer program which is not a	
658	standard existing computer program in use by the clerk. The clerk shall not	
659	be required to permit access to, or to provide copies of, copyrighted	
660	computer programs or any other computer programs in violation of any	
661	software license agreement or containing confidential records otherwise	
662	excluded or exempted by this Code section or any other applicable law.	
663	(8) Issuing certificate of pending or unsatisfied judgment, as provided in	
664	Code Section 40-9-40	3.00
665	(9) Issuing certificate of appointment and reappointment to notaries public,	
666	as provided by Code Section 45-17-4	<del>3.00</del> <u>20.00</u>
667	(10) Registering and filing trade names pursuant to Code Section 10-1-490	8.00 <u>15.00</u>
668	(11) Issuing subpoena, signed and sealed, notwithstanding subsection (e) of	
669	this Code section, each	1.00 <u>5.00</u>
670	(12) Preparation of record and transcript to the Supreme Court and Court of	
671	Appeals, per page	<del>1.50</del> 10.00

672	Where a transcript of the evidence and proceedings is filed with the clerk and	
673	does not require recopying, the clerk shall not receive the fee herein	
674	prescribed with respect to such transcript but shall receive, for filing and	
675	transmission of such transcript, a fee of	<del>5.00</del> <u>35.00</u>
676	(13) Reserved. Issuing jury scrip or check, each	<del>.30</del>
677	(14) For each day of service in attendance upon the courts	<del>50.00</del>
678	The per diem attendance upon the courts shall be paid from the treasury of	
679	the respective counties of this state only to clerks who are on a fee system of	
680	compensation. Reserved.	
681	(15) For performing the duties required of them by Article 2 of Chapter 2 of	
682	Title 44, the clerks shall receive the same sums as in civil cases.	
683	(16) For performing the duties required of them by Article 1 of Chapter 9A	
684	of Title 14, the 'Uniform Limited Partnership Act,' and for filing statements	
685	of partnership pursuant to Code Section 14-8-10.1, the clerks shall receive	
686	the sums as in civil cases.	
687	(17) Filing incorporation proceedings except for corporation for which filing	
688	procedures are governed by Chapter 2 of Title 14:	
689	(A) Articles of incorporation	20.00
690	(B) Articles of amendment	20.00
691	(C) Restated articles	20.00
692	(D) Merger	<del>20.00</del>
693	(E) Dissolution	20.00
694	(F) Involuntary dissolution	no fee
695	(G) Consolidation and merger	20.00
696	(H) Certificate of election to dissolve	20.00
697	(I) Order approving change of principal office	no fee
698	(J) Articles of incorporation as required by Code Section 46-5-100	20.00
699	(h) Fees in criminal cases:	
700	(1) Entering and docketing bills of indictment, presentments, no-bill	s, \$ 3.00
701	accusations	
702	(2) Reserved. Issuing and mailing first notice of arraignment pursuant to Cod	<del>le</del>
703	Section 17-7-91	1.00
704	(3) Reserved. Affidavit of custodian, filing and transmittal pursuant to Cod	<del>le</del>
705	Section 17-10-12	1.00

706	(4) Reserved. Preparation and transmission of defendant's personal history and
707	related documents, as provided in Code Section 42-5-50 5.00
708	(5) Reserved.
709	(6) Preparation and furnishing copy of the record of appeal in criminal cases
710	where accused was convicted of capital felony, in accordance with Code
711	Section 5-6-43, per page
712	Clerk's certificate
713	The clerk shall not receive compensation for the transcript of evidence and
714	proceedings.
715	(7) When costs are assessed by the court the minimum amount assessed as
716	court costs in the disposition of any criminal case in the superior court shall be
717	\$100.00. Any surcharge provided for by law shall be in addition to such sum."
718	SECTION 1-39.
719	Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (e) and subsections (f)
720	through (k) of Code Section 15-9-60, relating to costs for probate court, as follows:
721	"(1) Except as otherwise provided, the cost in an initial proceeding regarding the estate
722	of a decedent or of a missing individual believed to be dead shall be \$90.00 \( \frac{\$130.00}{} \) for
723	all services rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court through the entry of the
724	final order on such initial proceedings, exclusive of recording charges;"
725	"(f) Costs in minor guardianship matters:
726	(1) Except as otherwise provided, the cost in a proceeding regarding the person,
727	property, or person and property of a minor shall be \$60.00 \$75.00 for all services
728	rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court through the entry of the final order on
729	such proceeding, exclusive of recording charges, including, but not necessarily limited
730	to, the following proceedings: petition for temporary letters of guardianship of the person
731	of a minor; petition for letters of guardianship of person, property, or person and property
732	of a minor by person other than natural guardian; petition for letters of guardianship of
733	property of a minor, by natural guardian, with bond — personal property over \$5,000.00;
734	petition for order that natural guardian not be required to become legally qualified
735	guardian of the property; application of guardian for letters of dismission; or any other
736	proceeding by which the jurisdiction of the probate court is first invoked with regard to
737	the person, property, or person and property of a minor; and
738	(2) Except as otherwise provided, the costs for all services rendered by the judge or clerk

of the probate court shall be as set forth below for the following proceedings, pleadings,

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740	or documents regarding the person, property, or person and property of a minor, exclusive
741	of recording charges:
742	(A) Petition of guardian for leave to sell \$ 50.00 70.00
743	(B) Petition to compromise doubtful claim of minor 50.00 70.00
744	(C) Petition for leave to encroach on corpus
745	(D) Petition to change accounting period
746	(E) Inventory or annual, intermediate, or final return (each) 25.00 30.00
747	(F) Petition or motion for attorneys' fees
748	(G) Petition to terminate temporary guardianship of minor 25.00 30.00
749	(H) Any other petition, application, motion, or other pleading for which
750	no specific cost is set forth in this Code section filed regarding an
751	existing guardianship of a minor
752	(g) Costs in adult guardianship matters:
753	(1) Except as otherwise provided, the cost in a proceeding regarding the person,
754	property, or person and property of an adult alleged to be incapacitated shall be \$150.00
755	for all services rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court through the entry of
756	the final order on such proceeding, exclusive of recording charges, including, but not
757	necessarily limited to, the following proceedings: petition for the appointment of an
758	emergency guardian for an alleged gravely incapacitated adult; petition for the
759	appointment of an emergency and permanent guardian for an alleged gravely
760	incapacitated adult; petition for the appointment of a guardian for an alleged incapacitated
761	adult; or any other proceeding by which the jurisdiction of the probate court is first
762	invoked with regard to an adult alleged to be incapacitated; and
763	(2) Except as otherwise provided, the cost for all services rendered by the judge or clerk
764	of the probate court shall be as set forth below for the following proceedings, pleadings,
765	or documents regarding the person, property, or person and property of an incapacitated
766	adult, exclusive of recording charges:
767	(A) Petition of guardian for leave to sell
768	(B) Petition to compromise doubtful claim
769	(C) Petition for leave to encroach on corpus
770	(D) Petition to change accounting period
771	(E) Inventory or annual, intermediate, or final return (each) 25.00 30.00
772	(F) Petition or motion for attorneys' fees
773	(G) Petition to terminate or modify guardianship of incapacitated
774	adult

775	(H) Application of guardian for letters of dismission
776	(I) Any other petition, application, motion, or other pleading for which
777	no specific cost is set forth in this Code section filed regarding an
778	existing guardianship of an adult
779	(h) Costs in matters involving sterilization, involuntary treatment, habilitation, or
780	temporary placement:
781	(1) Except as otherwise provided, the cost in a proceeding filed under Chapter 20 of Title
782	31, Chapter 36A of Title 31, or Chapter 3, 4, or 7 of Title 37 shall be \$75.00 \$130.00 for
783	all services rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court through the entry of the
784	final order on such proceeding, exclusive of recording charges;
785	(2) There shall be no cost assessed for the receipt and consideration of affidavits in
786	support of an order to apprehend under Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 37 or Part
787	1 of Article 3 of Chapter 7 of Title 37 or for the issuance of the order to apprehend; and
788	(3) There shall be no cost assessed for the receipt and consideration of a petition in
789	support of an order to apprehend under Part 3 of Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 37 or Part
790	3 of Article 3 of Chapter 7 of Title 37 or for the issuance of the order to apprehend a
791	patient alleged to be in noncompliance with an involuntary outpatient treatment order.
792	(i) Costs for hearings in contested matters:
793	(1) For conducting trials of contested matters or for formal hearing on the denial of an
794	application for a firearms license before the probate court, the cost shall be $\$25.00$ $\$30.00$
795	per one-half day or portion thereof;
796	(2) There shall be no additional cost for the initial hearing in adult guardianship matters
797	or in matters involving sterilization, involuntary treatment, habilitation, or involuntary
798	placement; and
799	(3) There shall be no cost for any hearing in an uncontested matter.
800	(j) Custodial accounts. For each account accepted by the judge of the probate court as
801	custodian for a minor, incapacitated adult, or missing or unknown heir or beneficiary, there
802	shall be a one-time fee of 8 percent of the fund deducted from the fund when first accepted.
803	(k) Miscellaneous costs. Except as otherwise provided, the judge or clerk of the probate
804	court shall be entitled to the following costs for the proceedings, pleading, documents, or
805	services itemized:
806	(1) Application for writ of habeas corpus\$ 75.00
807	(2) Petition to establish lost papers, exclusive of recording charges 50.00
808	(3) Petition for or declaration of exemptions
809	(4) Petition to change birth certificate

810	(5) For all services rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court
811	through the entry of the final order, exclusive of recording charges, for any
812	application or petition by which the jurisdiction of the probate court is first
813	invoked for which no cost is set forth in this Code section or other applicable
814	law
815	(6) Issuance of any order, including a rule nisi, in any matter for which the
816	costs set forth in this Code section do not include all services to be rendered
817	by the judge or clerk of the probate court, exclusive of recording charges. 25.00 30.00
818	(7) Motions, amendments, or other pleadings filed in any matter for which
819	the cost set forth in this Code section does not include all services to be
820	rendered by the judge or clerk of the probate court, exclusive of recording
821	charges, and no other cost is set forth in this Code section
822	(8) For processing appeals to superior court, exclusive of recording
823	charges
824	(9) For issuance of writ of fieri facias (fi.fa.)
825	(10) Reserved. For issuance of permit to discharge explosives 25.00
826	(11) For issuance of permit to discharge fireworks
827	(12) Application for firearms license (exclusive of fees charged by
828	other agencies for the examination of criminal records and mental
829	health records)
830	(13) For issuance of a replacement firearms license
831	(14) Application for marriage license if the applicants have completed
832	premarital education pursuant to Code Section 19-3-30.1
833	(14.1) Application for a marriage license if the applicants have not
834	completed premarital education pursuant to Code Section 19-3-30.135.00 40.00
835	(15) For the safekeeping of a will
836	(16) For issuance of a veteran's license
837	(17) For issuance of a peddler's license
838	(18) For issuance of a certificate of residency
839	(19) Registration of junk dealer
840	(20) Certification of publication of application for insurance company
841	charter
842	(21) Recording of marks and brands, each
843	(22) Exemplification
844	(23) Certification under seal of copies (plus copy cost)
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845	(24) Certified copies of letters of personal representative, temporary
846	administrator, or guardian, each, including copy cost
847	(25) For issuance of a subpoena, each
848	(26) For filing and recording of oath or bond of any official, officer, or
849	employee of any municipality or authority within the county, each 5.00 10.00
850	(27) For filing and recording of oath or bond of county official or officer. No fee
851	(28) For examination of records or files by employee of the probate court to
852	provide abstract of information contained therein or to provide copies
853	therefrom, per estate or name
854	(29) Recording, per page
855	(30) Copies, per page
856	SECTION 1-40.
857	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 15-10-80, relating to filing fees,
858	service of process costs, and other costs in magistrate court, as follows:
859	"15-10-80.
860	(a) Upon filing any civil action the plaintiff shall pay a filing deposit as established by
861	local court rule not to exceed $\$20.00$ $\$22.00$ which shall cover all costs of the action except
862	service of process.
863	(b) Upon filing any civil action the plaintiff shall pay the actual cost of serving each party
864	required to be served but not more than the amount of the fee charged by sheriffs for
865	serving process for each party to be served.
866	(c) For issuing a writ of fieri facias the fee charged shall be \$2.00 \$4.00 which shall be
867	paid by the person requesting the same. Such fee shall be charged and collected
868	contemporaneously with or prior to the issuance of the writ of fieri facias but not before the
869	entry of judgment in the action.
870	(d) As between the parties, costs shall be taxed against the losing party."
871	SECTION 1-41.
872	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 15-10-81, relating to costs upon
873	conviction of violation of ordinance, as follows:
874	"15-10-81.
875	In cases of conviction of violation of county ordinances, costs of not more than \$30.00
876	\$70.00 may be taxed against the defendant."

877 **SECTION 1-42.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 15-10-82, relating to hearing fee on 878 879 application for search or arrest warrant or deposit account fraud citation, as follows:

880 "15-10-82.

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For hearing an application for an arrest or search warrant or deposit account fraud citation, the fee charged shall not exceed \$10.00 \$20.00, but this fee may be waived by the issuing magistrate if he or she finds that because of the financial circumstances of the party applying for the warrant or citation or for other reasons this fee should not be charged in justice, provided that no fee shall be assessed against the alleged victim of a violation of Code Section 16-5-90, 16-5-91, 16-6-1, 16-6-2, 16-6-3, 16-6-4, 16-6-5.1, 16-6-22.1, or 16-6-22.2 or against the alleged victim of any domestic violence offense for costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against the stalking offender, sexual offender, or domestic violence offender or for the issuance or service of a warrant, protective order, or witness subpoena arising from the incident of stalking, sexual assault, or domestic violence."

892 SECTION 1-43.

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (b) and (c) of Code Section 15-16-21, 893 894 relating to fees for sheriff's services, as follows:

"(b) For the services of the sheriff in civil cases, the following fees shall be charged:

896	(1) Serving copy of process and returning original, per copy \$ 25.00 50.00
897	(2) Action from another county, to be paid in advance
898	(3) Summoning each witness
899	(4) Each levy or writ of fieri facias
900	(5) Search and return of nulla bona
901	(6) Serving summons of garnishment or rule against garnishee 25.00 50.00
902	If more than one, for each additional copy
903	(7) Commissions on sales of property:
904	On sums of \$50.00 or less
905	On excess above \$50.00 up to \$550.00
906	For all sums exceeding \$550.00, on excess
907	No commissions shall be charged unless property is actually sold.
908	(8) Making out and executing titles to land
909	If presented by purchaser
910	(9) Executing bill of sale to personal property, when demanded by 13.00 20.00
911	purchaser

912	(10) Forthcoming bonds
913	(11) Serving process against tenant over or intruder upon land to
914	dispossess them
915	(12) For dispossessing tenant or intruder
916	(13) Taking and returning counter-affidavit when summary process to
917	dispossess tenant or intruder is resisted
918	(14) Settling each execution in his <u>or her</u> hands, settled without sale <u>13.00</u> <u>20.00</u>
919	(15) Levying an attachment
920	(16) Reserved. Following property out of county with attachment, for
921	every mile going and returning .21
922	(17) <u>Reserved.</u> Attending superior, state, or city courts, per day 20.00
923	(18) Reserved. Probate courts, per day
924	(19) Reserved. At elections as required by law, each day 20.00
925	(20) Collecting tax fi. fas. \$100.00 or less, each
926	(21) Collecting tax fi. fas. over \$100.00, each
927	(c) For executing and returning any warrant or for serving a citation, the fees to which a
928	sheriff is entitled as provided in this subsection shall be paid at the disposition of the
929	criminal case. For summoning witnesses or taking bonds in criminal cases, the fees to
930	which a sheriff is entitled as provided in this subsection shall be paid in advance prior to
931	the sheriff's rendering such service. For the services of the sheriff in criminal cases, the
932	following fees shall be charged:
933	(1) Removing prisoner when habeas corpus is sought for his <u>or her</u> relief. \$ 15.00
934	(2) Removing prisoners under habeas corpus when no mileage is paid, per 15.00
935	day
936	(3) Attending persons taken by warrant to judge's chamber, for each time. 4.50
937	(4) Conducting prisoner before judge or court to and from jail 4.50
938	(5) Executing and returning any warrant
939	(6) Serving any citation issued pursuant to Article 10 of Chapter 10 of this
940	title, relating to bad check prosecutions or any warrant
941	(7) Summoning each witness
942	(8) Taking bonds in criminal cases
943	(9) Executing a warrant of escape
944	(10) Service in every criminal case before a judge or a judge and jury 10.00"

945 **SECTION 1-43.1.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 15-21A-6, relating to filing fees and applications for free legal services, as follows:

"(d) Each clerk of court, each indigent defense program, or any other officer or agent of any court receiving any funds subject to this Code section shall collect the fees provided for in subsection (c) of this Code section and, if the governing authority has a procedure to verify the applicant's income as set forth in Code Section 17-12-80, shall pay such moneys over to the entity providing legal defense services under Chapter 12 of Title 17 by the last day of the month after the month of collection, and such funds shall not be subject to payment to the authority. If the governing authority does not have such verification procedure, the moneys shall be paid over to the authority by the last day of the month after the month of collection, to be deposited by the authority into the general fund of the state treasury."

958 **SECTION 1-44.** 

- 959 Said title is further amended by adding two new Code sections in Chapter 21A, relating to judicial accounting, to read as follows:
- 961 "<u>15-21A-6.1.</u>

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- 962 (a) In addition to all other legal costs, there shall be charged to the filing party and collected by the clerk an additional filing fee of \$125.00, to be known as a judicial 963 964 operations fund fee, in each civil action or case filed in a superior court except that the 965 state, including, but not limited to, its departments, agencies, boards, bureaus, commissions, public corporations, and authorities, municipalities, counties, and political 966 subdivisions shall be exempt from such fee. Without limiting the generality of the 967 968 foregoing, such fee shall apply to all adoptions, certiorari, trade name registrations, applications for change of name, and all other proceedings of a civil nature. Any matter 969 970 which is docketed upon the official dockets of the superior court and to which a number 971 is assigned shall be subject to such fee, whether such matter is contested or not.
- (b) Each superior court clerk shall collect the fees provided in this Code section and the
   moneys shall be paid over to the authority by the last day of the month after the month of
   collection, to be deposited by the authority into the general fund of the state treasury.
- 975 (c) The authority shall, on a quarterly basis, make a report and accounting of all funds
  976 collected pursuant to this Code section and shall submit such report and accounting to the
  977 Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget Office, and the Senate Budget Office no
- later than 60 days after the last day of the preceding quarter.

- 979 <u>15-21A-6.2.</u>
- 980 (a) In addition to all other legal costs, there shall be charged to the filing party and
- ollected by the clerk an additional filing fee of \$125.00, to be known as a judicial
- operations fund fee, in each civil action or case filed in a state court except that the state,
- 983 including, but not limited to, its departments, agencies, boards, bureaus, commissions,
- public corporations, and authorities, municipalities, counties, and political subdivisions
- shall be exempt from such fee. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such fee
- shall apply to any matter which is docketed upon the official dockets of the state court and
- to which a number is assigned, whether such matter is contested or not.
- 988 (b) Each state court clerk shall collect the fees provided in this Code section and the
- moneys due the authority shall be paid over to the authority by the last day of the month
- after the month of collection with \$75.00 of these moneys paid to the authority to be
- deposited by the authority into the general fund of the state treasury and \$50.00 of these
- moneys shall be retained by the local governing authority.
- 993 (c) The authority shall, on a quarterly basis, make a report and accounting of all funds
- ollected pursuant to this Code section and shall submit such report and accounting to the
- Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget Office, and the Senate Budget Office no
- 996 <u>later than 60 days after the last day of the preceding quarter."</u>
- 997 **SECTION 1-45.**
- 998 Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to education, is amended by
- 999 revising Code Section 20-1A-4, relating to powers and duties of the Department of Early
- 1000 Care and Learning, as follows:
- 1001 "20-1A-4.
- The Department of Early Care and Learning shall have the following powers and duties:
- 1003 (1) To administer such programs and services as may be necessary for the operation and
- management of voluntary pre-kindergarten, which shall be known as 'Georgia's Pre-K
- 1005 Program';
- 1006 (2) To administer such programs and services as may be necessary for the operation and
- management of preschool and child development programs, such as Even Start and child
- care regulation and food programs;
- 1009 (3) To act as the agent of the federal government in conformity with this chapter and the
- administration of any federal funds granted to the state to aid in the furtherance of any
- functions of the department;
- 1012 (4) To assist local units of administration in this state so as to assure the proliferation of
- services under this chapter;
- 1014 (5) To regulate early care and education programs in accordance with this chapter;

(6) To perform the functions set out in Code Section 20-1A-64, relating to improvement

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1016 of the quality, availability, and affordability of child care in this state; 1017 (7) To serve as the Head Start state collaboration office; 1018 (8) To establish and collect annual fees for licensure, registration, or commission of early 1019 care and education programs. Such fees so established shall be reasonable and shall be 1020 determined in such a manner that the total amount of fees established shall help defray 1021 the direct and indirect costs to the department in performing such function. The 1022 department shall remit all fees collected to the general fund of the state; 1023 (8)(9) To perform any other functions as agreed upon between the department and the 1024 Department of Human Resources (now known as the Department of Human Services), 1025 pursuant to Code Section 20-1A-8; 1026 (9)(10) To perform any other functions as agreed upon between the department and the 1027 Department of Education, in accordance with Code Section 20-1A-17; and 1028 (10)(11) To exercise the powers reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes of this 1029 chapter, including, but not limited to, contracting for services." 1030 **SECTION 1-46.** 1031 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (k), (m), and (r) of Code Section 1032 20-1A-10, relating to consultation by the Department of Early Care and Learning on early 1033 care and education programs and other matters, and by adding a new subsection to read as 1034 follows: 1035 "(k)(1) Application for a license, commission, or registration for an early care and 1036 education program shall be made to the department upon forms furnished by the 1037 department. Upon receipt of an application for a license, registration, or commission and 1038 upon presentation by the applicant of evidence that the early care and education program 1039 meets the rules and regulations prescribed by the department, the department shall issue 1040 such early care and education program a license, registration, or commission for a 1041 one-year period. (2) On and after the effective date of this paragraph, the following annual fees shall 1042 1043 apply to applications for licensure, registration, or commission as a day-care center, child 1044 care learning center, group day-care home, or family day-care home: 1045 \$ 50.00 1046 100.00 (B) Capacity of 26 to 50 children.... 1047 (C) Capacity of 51 to 100 children.... 150.00 1048 (D) Capacity of 101 to 200 children..... 200.00 (E) Capacity of more than 200 children..... 1049 250.00"

1050 "(m) The department shall refuse to issue a license, registration, or commission upon a showing of:

- 1052 (1) Noncompliance with the rules and regulations for day-care centers, family day-care
- homes, group day-care homes, or child care learning centers which are designated in
- writing to the facilities as being related to children's health and safety;
- 1055 (2) Flagrant and continued operation of an unlicensed, unregistered, or uncommissioned
- facility in contravention of the law; or
- 1057 (3) Prior license, registration, or commission denial or revocation within one year of
- application; or
- 1059 (4) Failure to pay the annual fee for licensure, registration, or commission of early care
- and education programs."
- 1061 "(r) If abuses, derelictions, or deficiencies are found in the operation and management of
- any early care and education program, including failure to pay the annual fee for licensure,
- registration, or commission, they shall be brought immediately to the attention of the
- management of such program; and if correctable, but not corrected within a reasonable
- time, the department shall revoke the license, registration, or commission of such program
- in the manner prescribed in this Code section."

## 1067 **SECTION 1-46.1.**

- Said title is further amended by revising subsections (b) and (c) of Code Section 20-1A-12,
- relating to actions authorized by department in event of violations, as follows:
- 1070 "(b) The department shall have the authority to take any of the actions enumerated in
- subsection (c) of this Code section upon a finding that the applicant or holder of a license
- 1072 has:
- 1073 (1) Knowingly made any false statement of material information in connection with the
- application for a license, or in statements made or on documents submitted to the
- department as part of an inspection, survey, or investigation, or in the alteration or
- falsification of records maintained by the early care and education program;
- 1077 (2) Failed or refused to provide the department with access to the premises subject to
- regulation or information pertinent to the initial or continued licensing of the program;
- 1079 (3) Failed to comply with the licensing requirements of this state; or
- 1080 (4) Failed to pay the annual fee for licensure, registration, or commission of early care
- and education programs; or
- 1082  $\frac{(4)(5)}{(5)}$  Failed to comply with any provisions of this Code section.
- 1083 (c) When the department finds that any applicant or holder of a license has violated any
- provision of subsection (b) of this Code section or laws, rules, regulations, or formal orders

related to the initial or continued licensing of the program, the department, subject to notice and opportunity for hearing, may take any of the following actions:

- (1) Refuse to grant a license; provided, however, that the department may refuse to grant a license without holding a hearing prior to taking such action;
- (2) Administer a public reprimand;
- 1090 (3) Suspend any license for a definite period or for an indefinite period in connection with any condition which may be attached to the restoration of said license;
- (4) Prohibit any applicant or holder of a license from allowing a person who previously was involved in the management or control, as defined by rule, of any program which has had its license revoked or denied within the past 12 months to be involved in the management or control of such program;
- 1096 (5) Revoke any license;

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- (6) Impose a fine, not to exceed a total of \$25,000.00, of up to \$500.00 per day for each violation of a law, rule, regulation, or formal order related to the initial or ongoing licensing of any program; or
- 1100 (7) Impose a late fee of up to \$250.00 for failure of an early care and education program

  to pay the annual fee for licensure, registration, or commission within 30 days of due date

  as established by the department; or
- 1103 (8) Limit or restrict any license as the department deems necessary for the protection of the public, including, but not limited to, restricting some or all services of or admissions into a program for a time certain.
- In taking any of the actions enumerated in this subsection, the department shall consider the seriousness of the violation, including the circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts, and the hazard or potential hazard created to the health or safety of the public."

1110 **SECTION 1-47.** 

Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections, is amended by revising subsection (1) of Code Section 21-5-34, relating to disclosure reports, as follows:

"(1) In addition to other penalties provided under this chapter, an additional a filing fee of \$25.00 \$100.00 shall be imposed for each report that is filed late. In addition, a filing fee of \$50.00 \$250.00 shall be imposed on the fifteenth day after the due date if the report has still not been filed; provided, however, a 15 day extension period shall be granted on the final report. A fine of \$1,000.00 shall be imposed on the forty-fifth day after the due date for such report if the report has not been filed by such date. In the case of a candidate, such fine shall be paid from the personal funds of the candidate and no other funds from any source may be used to pay such fine."

1121	SECTION 1-48.
1122	Said title is further amended in subsection (a) of Code Section 21-5-50, relating to filing of
1123	financial disclosure statements, by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:
1124	"(6) In addition to other penalties provided under this chapter, a filing fee of \$100.00
1125	shall be imposed for each financial disclosure statement that is filed late. In addition, a
1126	filing fee of \$250.00 shall be imposed on the fifteenth day after the due date if the
1127	statement has still not been filed. A fine of \$1,000.00 shall be imposed on the forty-fifth
1128	day after the due date for such statement if the statement has not been filed by such date.
1129	Such fine shall be paid from the personal funds of the person required to file such
1130	statement and no other funds from any source may be used to pay such fine."
1131	SECTION 1-49.
1132	Said title is further amended by revising subsection (f) Code Section 21-5-71, relating to
1133	registration of lobbyists, as follows:
1134	"(f)(1) Each person registering under this Code section shall pay the registration fees set
1135	forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection; provided, however, that a person who represents
1136	any state, county, municipal, or public agency, department, commission, or authority
1137	shall be exempted from payment of such registration fees and a person employed by an
1138	organization exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4)
1139	of the Internal Revenue Code, as that code is defined in Code Section 48-1-2, shall be
1140	exempted from payment of such registration fees except for payment of an initial
1141	registration fee of \$25.00.
1142	(2) The commission shall collect the following fees:
1143	(A) Annual lobbyist registration or renewal filed pursuant to this
1144	Code section
1145	(B) Lobbyist supplemental registration filed pursuant to this Code
1146	section
1147	(C) Each copy of a lobbyist identification card issued pursuant to this
1148	Code section
1149	(D) In addition to other penalties provided under this chapter, a filing
1150	fee of \$50.00 \$100.00 shall be imposed for each report that is filed
1151	late. In addition, a filing fee of \$25.00 \$250.00 shall be imposed on
1152	the fifteenth day after the due date if the report has still not been filed.
1153	A fine of \$1,000.00 shall be imposed on the forty-fifth day after the
1154	due date for such report if the report has not been filed by such date.
1155	When such a fine is imposed, such fine shall be paid from the

personal funds of the lobbyist and no other funds from any source

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1157 may be used to pay such fine." 1158 SECTION 1-50. 1159 Title 25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to fire protection and safety, is 1160 amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 25-2-4.1, relating to fees and charges 1161 for regulating fire and other hazards, as follows: 1162 "(a) The Commissioner is authorized to assess and collect, and persons so assessed shall 1163 pay in advance to the Commissioner, fees and charges under this chapter as follows: 1164 (1) New anhydrous ammonia permit for storage in bulk (more than 1165 2,000 gallons aggregate capacity) for sale or distribution one-time 1166 \$ <del>100.00</del> 150.00 fee.... 1167 (2) Annual license for manufacture of explosives other than 1168 fireworks..... <del>100.00</del> 150.00 1169 (3) Annual license for manufacture, storage, or transport of 1170 1171 (4) Carnival license..... <del>100.00</del> 150.00 100.00 1172 (6) Construction plan review: 1173 1174 <del>100.00</del> 150.00 1175 (B) Building construction, 10,000 square feet or less. . . . . . . . . <del>100.00</del> 150.00 1176 1177 (D) Other construction..... <del>100.00</del> 150.00 1178 (7) Fire sprinkler contractor certificate of competency...... <del>100.00</del> <u>150.00</u> 1179 (8) Liquefied petroleum gas storage license: 1180 (A) 2,000 gallons or less..... <del>100.00</del> 150.00 (B) More than 2,000 gallons..... 1181 <del>500.00</del> 600.00 1182 (9) Building construction inspection: 1183 (A) 80 percent completion, 100 percent completion, annual, and 1184 none 1185 (B) Second follow-up..... <del>100.00</del> 150.00 <del>150.00</del> 220.00 1186 1187 (10) Purchase, storage, sale, transport, or use of explosives other than fireworks: 1188 1189 <del>50.00</del> <u>75.00</u>

**SECTION 1-50.1.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 25-2-20, relating to the licensing of carnivals, circuses, and other exhibits, as follows:

1197 "25-2-20.

All traveling motion picture shows, carnivals, and circuses shall obtain a fire prevention regulatory license from the state fire marshal based upon compliance with this chapter, as set forth in rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner. The fee for the license shall be \$100.00 \$150.00 for each calendar year or part thereof, payable to the state fire marshal, who shall pay the same into the state treasury."

**SECTION 1-51.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 25-10-5, relating to licensing of fireworks dealers or displays, as follows:

1206 "25-10-5.

The annual license fee for any person, firm, or corporation conducting business in this state under paragraph (4) of Code Section 25-10-3 or storing fireworks under Code Section 25-10-3.1 or conducting pyrotechnic displays under Code Section 25-10-3.2 shall be \$1,000.00 \$1,500.00 per year, payable to the Safety Fire Commissioner. The license shall expire on December 31 of each year. The Safety Fire Commissioner is authorized and directed to promulgate safety regulations relating to the manufacture, storage, and transportation of fireworks within this state in order to ensure the adequate protection of the employees of any such person, firm, or corporation and of the general public. The Safety Fire Commissioner is also authorized and directed to promulgate safety regulations relating to the public exhibition or display of pyrotechnics and the licensing requirements of those conducting such public exhibitions or displays, as he or she deems necessary. The Safety Fire Commissioner is further authorized and directed to conduct periodic inspections of the facilities of any person, firm, or corporation manufacturing, storing, and transporting fireworks as provided in paragraph (4) of Code Section 25-10-3 or as provided in Code Section 25-10-3.1 in order to ensure compliance with fire safety rules and regulations."

1222 **SECTION 1-52.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) Code Section 25-11-4, relating to

- 1224 certificates of competency for fire protection sprinkler contractors, as follows:
- 1225 "(a) Any individual desiring to become a certificate holder shall submit to the
- 1226 Commissioner a completed application on forms prescribed by the Commissioner. Such
- individual shall remit with his or her application a nonrefundable certificate fee of \$100.00
- \$150.00 plus a one-time filing fee of \$50.00 \$75.00. Such fee shall not be prorated for
- portions of a year."
- 1230 **SECTION 1-53.**
- 1231 Said title is further amended by revising subsections (b) and (d) of Code Section 25-11-5,
- relating to licenses for fire protection sprinkler contractors, as follows:
- 1233 "(b) Any organization or individual desiring to become a fire protection sprinkler
- 1234 contractor shall submit to the Commissioner a completed application on forms prescribed
- by him or her. Such organization or individual shall remit with his or her application a
- nonrefundable license fee of \$50.00 \$100.00 plus a one-time filing fee of \$50.00 \$75.00.
- Such fee shall not be prorated for portions of a year."
- 1238 "(d) A fire protection sprinkler contractor license shall expire annually as determined by
- the rules and regulations. A license holder desiring to renew his or her license shall submit
- a renewal application to the Commissioner and remit a renewal fee of \$50.00 \$75.00 on or
- before the date determined by the rules and regulations of each year."
- 1242 **SECTION 1-54.**
- Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (c) of Code Section 25-11-6,
- relating to fire protection sprinkler system inspector licenses, as follows:
- 1245 "(a) Any individual desiring to become a fire protection sprinkler system inspector shall
- submit to the Commissioner a completed application on the prescribed forms. Such
- individual shall remit with his or her application a nonrefundable license fee of \$50.00
- $\frac{$100.00}{}$  plus a one-time filing fee of  $\frac{$50.00}{}$   $\frac{$75.00}{}$ . Such fees shall not be prorated for
- portions of a year."
- 1250 "(c) A fire protection sprinkler system inspector license shall expire annually as
- determined by the rules and regulations. A license holder desiring to renew his or her
- license shall submit a renewal application to the Commissioner and remit a renewal fee of
- \$\frac{\$50.00}{200}\$ on or before the date determined by the rules and regulations of each year."

1254 **SECTION 1-55.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (c) of Code Section 25-11-7,

- relating to fire protection system designer licenses, as follows:
- 1257 "(a) Any individual desiring to become a fire protection system designer shall submit to
- the Commissioner a completed application on forms prescribed by the Commissioner.
- Such individual shall remit with his or her application a nonrefundable license fee of
- \$50.00 \\$100.00 plus a one-time filing fee of \\$50.00 \\$75.00. Such fee shall not be prorated
- for portions of a year."
- 1262 "(c) A fire protection system designer license shall expire annually as determined by the
- rules and regulations. A license holder desiring to renew his or her license shall submit a
- renewal application to the Commissioner and remit a renewal fee of \$50.00 \$75.00 on or
- before the date determined by the rules and regulations of each year."

1266 **SECTION 1-56.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 25-12-8, relating to permits for fire
- suppression systems and fire extinguishers testing, as follows:
- 1269 "25-12-8.
- Each individual actually performing the installing, inspecting, repairing, recharging,
- servicing, or testing activities must possess a valid and subsisting permit issued by the
- 1272 Commissioner. The annual fee for said permit shall be as established by the Commissioner
- by rule or regulation, but such permit fee shall not exceed \$25.00 \$75.00. Such permit
- shall not be required for any individual employed by any firm or governmental entity that
- engages only in installing, inspecting, recharging, repairing, servicing, or testing of
- portable fire extinguishers or fire suppression systems owned by the firm and installed on
- property under the control of said firm. Such individuals shall remain subject to the rules
- and regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter."
- 1279 **SECTION 1-57.**
- 1280 Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to food, drugs, and cosmetics,
- 1281 is amended by revising Code Section 26-2-25, relating to licensing of food sales
- 1282 establishments, as follows:
- 1283 "26-2-25.
- 1284 (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a food sales establishment without having
- first obtained a license from the Commissioner. No license issued under this article shall
- be suspended or revoked except for health and sanitation reasons or violations of this
- article and until the licensee to be affected shall be provided with reasonable notice thereof
- and an opportunity for hearing, as provided under Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia

Administrative Procedure Act.' Licenses issued under this article shall be valid until suspended or revoked renewed annually and shall not be transferable with respect to persons or location. There shall be no fee for such license. Each food sales establishment licensed pursuant to this Code section shall post such license on the premises in an open and conspicuous manner so as to be visible to the public. Neither the state nor any county, municipality, or consolidated government shall issue or renew any business or occupation license or permit for any food sales establishment until the establishment complies with the requirements of this article.

(b) The Commissioner shall charge the following fees for the licenses issued pursuant to
 subsection (a) of this Code section. The fee structure shall be based on the level of risk,
 procedural effort, and inspection time needed for each food sales establishments:

1300	(1) Tier 5	\$300.00
1301	(2) Tier 4	<u>250.00</u>
1302	(3) Tier 3	200.00
1303	(4) Tier 2	<u>150.00</u>
1304	(5) Tier 1	100.00

(c) The Department of Agriculture shall establish rules and regulation by which to assign
 each food sales establishment to a proper tier and to collect the fees provided for in this
 Code section."

**SECTION 1-58.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 26-2-312, relating to a wholesale fish dealer license, as follows:

- "(a) No person, firm, association of persons, or corporation shall be authorized or permitted to engage in the business of wholesale fish dealer in this state without first having paid to the Commissioner of Agriculture the annual license fees required in this Code section and having procured a license from the Commissioner authorizing such person to engage in the business of wholesale fish dealer. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1. The annual license fee applicable to and required of wholesale fish dealers shall be as follows:
- 1319 (1) The annual license fee for each resident wholesale fish dealer shall be \$50.00 \$60.00 for each place of business, fixed or movable;
- 1321 (2) The annual license fee for each nonresident or alien wholesale fish dealer shall be
  1322 \$\frac{\$50.00}{2}\$ for each place of business, fixed or movable, provided that the annual
  1323 license fee for each nonresident or alien wholesale fish dealer who is a resident of a state

which charges Georgia resident wholesale fish dealers a fee in excess of \$50.00 \$60.00 shall be the same as the fee such state charges Georgia resident wholesale fish dealers for each place of business, fixed or movable. The Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Georgia may enter into a reciprocal agreement with any other state to limit the fees such state charges a Georgia resident who operates as a wholesale fish dealer or its equivalent in such other state."

**SECTION 1-58.1.** 

Said title is further amended by repealing Code Section 26-2-319, relating to fish dealer license fees, and designating it as "Reserved."

**SECTION 1-59.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 26-2-411, relating to a sale of meat, poultry, or seafood from mobile vehicles license, as follows:

"(a) Any person who sells, displays for sale, or offers for sale at retail any fresh or frozen meat, poultry, or seafood in, on, or from a mobile vehicle shall prominently display in such mobile vehicle a current and valid license issued by the Department of Agriculture. Such license shall be issued by the department following the satisfactory inspection of such mobile vehicle and the meat, poultry, or seafood offered for sale therefrom to determine compliance with the laws of this state and the rules and regulations of the Commissioner and the payment of a license fee of \$50.00 \$100.00 per vehicle per year or any portion thereof. All licenses shall expire 12 months from the date of issue. Any license may be renewed for any subsequent year upon a satisfactory inspection of the mobile vehicle and its contents and the payment of the license fee. Any fees collected pursuant to this Code section shall be retained pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 45-12-92.1."

**SECTION 1-60.** 

Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia, relating to highways, bridges, and ferries, is amended by revising Code Section 32-6-75.2, relating to the Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Fund, as follows:

1351 "32-6-75.2.

There is established a special fund to be known as the 'Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Fund.' This fund shall consist of all moneys collected under Code Section 32-6-75.3, any appropriations by the General Assembly to the fund, revenues derived from the sale of any special and distinctive wildflower motor vehicle license plates issued pursuant to Code Section 40-2-49.2 paragraph (5) of subsection (1) of Code Section 40-2-86, any contributions to the fund from any other source, and all interest thereon. All

moneys collected under Code Section 32-6-75.3 and manufacturing fees for any special and 1359 distinctive wildflower motor vehicle license plates shall be paid into the fund. All balances 1360 in the fund shall be deposited in an interest-bearing account identifying the fund and shall be carried forward each year so that no part thereof may be deposited in the general 1362 treasury. The department shall administer the fund and expend moneys held in the fund in furtherance of roadside enhancement and beautification projects along public roads in 1364 this state and administration of the tree and vegetation trimming permit program under 1365 Code Section 32-6-75.3. In addition to the foregoing, the department may, without 1366 limitation, promote and solicit voluntary contributions, promote the sale of motor vehicle 1367 license tags authorized under Code Section 40-2-49.2 paragraph (5) of subsection (1) of 1368 Code Section 40-2-86, and develop any fund raising or other promotional techniques 1369 deemed appropriate by the department. Contributions to the fund shall be deemed 1370 supplemental to and shall in no way supplant funding that would otherwise be appropriated for these purposes. The department shall prepare, by February 1 of each year, an 1372 accounting of the funds received and expended from the fund. The report shall be made 1373 available to the members of the State Transportation Board, the Senate Transportation 1374 Committee, the Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives, and to members of the public on request." 1375

1376 SECTION 1-61.

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 32-9-4, relating to 1377

1378 designation of travel lanes, as follows:

- "(a) The department is authorized to designate travel lanes in each direction of travel on 1379
- 1380 any road in the state highway system for the exclusive or preferential use of:
- 1381 (1) Buses;

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- 1382 (2) Motorcycles;
- 1383 (3) Passenger vehicles occupied by two persons or more;
- 1384 (4) Vehicles bearing alternative fueled vehicle license plates issued under Code Section
- 40-2-76 paragraph (7) of subsection (1) of Code Section 40-2-86.1; or 1385
- (5) Other vehicles as designated by the department. 1386
- 1387 Where such designation has been made, the road shall be appropriately marked with such
- signs or other roadway markers and markings to inform the traveling public of the lane 1388
- restrictions imposed." 1389

1390 SECTION 1-62.

1391 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 32-9-8, relating to

1392 airport licensing, as follows:

"(b) It is declared that the operation of airports used by the public for general aviation purposes but which are operated without regulation as to minimum and uniform safety requirements endangers the lives and property of persons operating aircraft at these facilities, the passengers of aircraft operated by such persons, and the occupants of lands in the vicinity of such facilities. For the purpose of establishing and improving a system of safer airports and to foster safer operating conditions at these airports, the department is authorized and directed to provide for the licensing of airports. The department may charge a license fee of \$10.00 \$100.00 per runway, up to a maximum of \$400.00, for each original license and each renewal thereof. All licenses shall be renewed biennially. In promulgating the rules and regulations establishing minimum standards, the department shall consult with the Georgia Aviation Trades Association."

**SECTION 1-63.** 

Title 33 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to insurance, is amended by revising subsection (g) Code Section 33-2-24, relating to enforcement of laws and regulations by the Commissioner of Insurance, as follows:

"(g) In addition to all other penalties provided for under this title, the Commissioner shall have the authority to place any insurer, agent, broker, counselor, solicitor, administrator, or adjuster on probation for a period of time not to exceed one year for each and every act in violation of this title or of the rules and regulations or orders of the Commissioner and may subject such insurer, agent, broker, counselor, solicitor, administrator, or adjuster to a monetary penalty of up to \$1,000.00 \$2,000.00 for each and every act in violation of this title or of the rules, regulations, or orders of the Commissioner, unless the insurer, agent, broker, counselor, solicitor, administrator, or adjuster knew or reasonably should have known he or she was in violation of this title or of the rules and regulations or orders of the Commissioner, in which case the monetary penalty provided for in this subsection may be increased to an amount up to \$5,000.00 for each and every act in violation."

**SECTION 1-64.** 

1420 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles and traffic, is

amended by revising Code Section 40-2-9, relating to county name decals on license plates,

1422 as follows:

1423 "40-2-9.

1424 Any metal special, distinctive, or prestige license plate, except those provided for in Code

1425 Sections 40-2-61, 40-2-62, 40-2-74, 40-2-82, and 40-2-85.1 or as otherwise expressly

provided in this chapter, shall contain a space for a county name decal. The provisions of

this chapter relative to county name decals shall be applicable to all such license plates."

**SECTION 1-65.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-2-22, relating to applications to local tag agents, as follows:

1431 "40-2-22.

License plates and revalidation decals shall be issued only upon applications made to the local tag agent or the commissioner. License plates and revalidation decals may be issued by the local tag agent upon a proper application and in accordance with the terms of this chapter or by the commissioner on an appropriate application forwarded to him by the local tag agent where the type of license plate applied for is not maintained in local inventory or where the license plate applied for is one of those special license plates provided by law. The commissioner shall not be authorized to receive any applications for license plates or revalidation decals except those received through the local tag agents as provided for in this chapter."

**SECTION 1-66.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-2-30, relating to purchasing license plates by mail, as follows:

1444 "40-2-30.

An applicant may purchase a vehicle license plate or revalidation decal by mail, by mailing a properly completed application form to the tag agent of the county of his <u>or her</u> residence along with a <u>bank check or</u> money order in the amount of the license fee and all ad valorem taxes due thereon plus an additional fee of \$1.00. The governing authority of the county may by resolution authorize the tag agent of the county to receive application and payment for the purchase of a license plate or revalidation decal by mail without charging the additional \$1.00 fee."

**SECTION 1-67.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (b), (b.1), and (d) of Code Section 40-2-31, relating to the design of license plates and revalidation decals, as follows:

"(b) Such license plates shall be of metal at least six inches wide and not less than 12 inches in length, except motorcycle license plates which shall be at least four inches wide and not less than seven inches in length, and shall show in bold boldface characters the month and year of expiration, the serial number, and either the full name or the abbreviation of the name of the state, shall designate the county from which the license plate was issued unless specifically stated otherwise in this chapter, and shall show such other distinctive markings as in the judgment of the commissioner may be deemed advisable, so as to indicate the class of weight of the vehicle for which the license plate was

issued; and any license plate for a low-speed vehicle shall designate the vehicle as such. Such plates may also bear such figures, characters, letters, or combinations thereof as in the judgment of the commissioner will to the best advantage advertise, popularize, and otherwise promote Georgia as the 'Peach State.' The metal license plate shall be of such strength and quality that the plate shall provide a minimum service period of at least five years. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act,' for the design and issuance of new metal license plates and to implement the other provisions of this Code section.

- (b.1) Repealed. Notwithstanding the provisions of Code Sections 40-2-131 and 48-2-17,
- 1473 the commissioner shall retain the costs of manufacturing and delivery of license plates,
- revalidation decals, and county name decals from the registration fee as set forth in Code
- 1475 <u>Section 40-2-151.</u>"

"(d) In those years in which a metal new license plate is not issued, a revalidation decal with a distinctive serial number shall be issued and affixed in the space provided on the license plate issued to the applicant which shall indicate the year and month through which the registration of the vehicle shall be valid; provided, however, that if the commissioner determines that it is necessary, two revalidation decals shall be issued for each license plate to reflect the required information. When an applicant is issued a revalidation decal and such applicant registered the vehicle in another county the previous year, the applicant shall also be issued a new county decal which shall be properly affixed to the license plate and shall replace the other county decal."

**SECTION 1-68.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-33, relating to issuance of license plates and compensation of tag agents, as follows:
  - "(b) Except as provided for in Code Section 40-2-22, the The amount of commission permitted as compensation to tag agents under this Code section shall be \$1.00 per license plate or revalidation decal issued during any calendar year. Twenty-five cents for each license plate or revalidation decal sold in excess of 4,000 during any one calendar year shall become the property of the county and shall be turned over to the fiscal authorities of the county by the tag agent. The remaining portion of such commissions shall be disposed of as provided in Code Section 40-2-34."

**SECTION 1-69.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 40-2-60, relating to prestige license plates, as follows:

"(a) Motor vehicle owners who are residents of Georgia, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and, except as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, upon the payment of a fee of \$25.00 \$35.00 in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee, shall be issued special personalized prestige license plates by the commissioner. Special personalized license plates issued pursuant to this Code section shall be subject to an additional annual registration fee of \$25.00 \$35.00 as a condition of obtaining an annual revalidation decal for such license plate which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34."

1507 **SECTION 1-70.** 

- Said title is further amended by revising subsections (c), (d), and (h) of Code Section 40-2-60.1, relating to the standardized administrative process for the issuance of special license plates, as follows:
- 1511 "(c) As used in this Code section, the term:

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- 1512 (1) 'Manufacturing fee' means a \$25.00 fee paid at the time an application is submitted 1513 or upon the issuance of a special license plate.
- 1514 (2) 'Registration fee' means the fees as set forth in Code Section 40-2-151.
- 1515 (3) 'Special license plate' means a metal license plate that is authorized under this Code section that commemorates an event or supports an agency, fund, or program beneficial to the people of this state or is specifically authorized by the General Assembly for certain persons or vehicles.
- (4) 'Special license plate fee' means a \$25.00 \$35.00 fee paid at the time a special license plate is issued.
- 1521 (5) 'Special license plate renewal fee' means a \$25.00 \$35.00 fee paid at the time a special license plate is renewed and a revalidation decal is issued.
- (c.1) Any special license plate issued under the provisions of this Code section shall be
   subject to the manufacturing fee, special license plate fee, and special license plate renewal
   fee provided for in this Code section.
- (d) The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring a special license plate, in 1526 1527 cooperation with the commissioner, shall design a special distinctive license plate appropriate to promote the program benefited by the issuance of the special license plate. 1528 1529 Special license plates for groups of individuals and vehicles shall be readily recognizable 1530 by the insertion of an appropriate logo or graphic identifying the special nature of the 1531 license plate. All special license plates must be of the same size as general issue motor 1532 vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number, whereby 1533 the total number of characters does not exceed six an amount to be determined by the

commissioner. No two recipients shall receive identically numbered plates. The graphic on the special license plate shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be no larger than three inches by three inches. Spaces for county name labels are required for license plates authorized under this Code section unless expressly eliminated by the request of the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring a special license plate at the time the license plate is designed."

"(h) After July 1, 2007, any Any party requesting a special license plate not previously authorized by this chapter shall make application with the department. The application shall include a design of the proposed license plate and a bond of \$50,000.00 to serve as surety for moneys collected from applicants by the sponsor. The commissioner shall

authorized by this chapter shall make application with the department. The application shall include a design of the proposed license plate and a bond of \$50,000.00 to serve as surety for moneys collected from applicants by the sponsor. The commissioner shall review and approve or disapprove all applications within 30 days of receipt by the department. Upon approval of the design by the commissioner, the special license plate authorized pursuant to this subsection shall not be issued except upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 prepaid applications together with the manufacturing fees within two years after the date of approval by the commissioner. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee fees, and all fees held by the department and the sponsor shall be refunded to applicants; provided, however, that once the department has received 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fees, the sponsor shall not be entitled to a refund."

**SECTION 1-71.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-2-61, relating to special license plates for certain governmental officials, as follows:

1557 "40-2-61.

The commissioner shall design and issue distinctive license plates to each United States Senator and Congressman elected from the State of Georgia, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each Justice of the Supreme Court and each Judge of the Court of Appeals to be placed on such official's personal motor vehicle. Each such distinctive license plate shall indicate the individual's elected office and no county name decal need be affixed to such plate. The special license plate authorized by this Code section shall be issued to such elected official upon application and payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 and upon compliance with the state laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and shall be transferred as provided in Code Section 40-2-80. Distinctive license plates issued pursuant to this Code section shall be renewed annually, and revalidation decals shall be issued upon compliance with the laws relating to registration and licensing and upon payment of an additional registration fee of

\$\frac{\\$25.00}{\$35.00}\$ which shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time for collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34."

**SECTION 1-72.** 

Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 40-2-62, relating to special license plates for members of the General Assembly, as follows:

1576 "40-2-62.

The commissioner shall mail special and distinctive license plates printed for members of the General Assembly to the local tag agent in the counties wherein such members reside on or before the owner's registration period each year. Such special and distinctive license plates shall be issued only upon applications made to the local tag agent and payment of a \$25.00 manufacturing fee. License plates may be issued by the local tag agent upon a proper application and in accordance with the terms of this chapter. License plates issued pursuant to this Code section need not contain a place for the county name decal, and no county name decal need be affixed to a license plate issued pursuant to this Code section. Special and distinctive license plates issued pursuant to this Code section shall be renewed annually, and revalidation decals shall be issued upon compliance with the laws relating to registration and licensing and upon payment of an additional registration fee of \$25.00 \$35.00 which shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time for collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The special license plates issued pursuant to this Code section shall be transferred to another vehicle as provided in Code Section 40-2-80."

**SECTION 1-73.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-64.1, relating to special license plates for foreign organizations, as follows:

"(b) Upon application and compliance with the state motor vehicle laws relating to the registration and licensing of motor vehicles and the payment of the regular license fee, any registration fees, including the \$25.00 manufacturing fee and the \$35.00 special license plate fee or the \$35.00 special license plate renewal fee, as applicable, official representatives of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representatives Office in the United States who maintain a presence in Georgia shall be issued Foreign Organization license plates as prescribed in Code Section 40-2-31 in duplicate. Such license plates shall be fastened to both the front and the rear of the vehicle."

1603 **SECTION 1-74.** 

- Said title is further amended by reserving the following Code sections:
- 1605 (1) Code Section 40-2-32, relating to license plates commemorating colleges and
- 1606 universities;
- 1607 (2) Code Section 40-2-75, relating to special license plates for amateur radio operators;
- 1608 (3) Code Section 40-2-76, relating to special license plates for vehicles using alternative
- 1609 fuels;
- 1610 (4) Code Section 40-2-77, relating to special license plates for antique or hobby or special
- 1611 interest vehicles; and
- 1612 (5) Code Section 40-2-78, relating to special license plates for firefighters.
- 1613 **SECTION 1-75.**
- 1614 Said title is further amended by repealing the following Code sections:
- 1615 (1) Code Section 40-2-32.1, relating to license plates for Georgia organizations;
- 1616 (2) Code Sections 40-2-48 through 40-2-49.1, which were reserved;
- 1617 (3) Code Section 40-2-49.2, relating to license plates promoting the conservation of
- 1618 wildflowers;
- 1619 (4) Code Section 40-2-49.3, relating to license plates promoting dog and cat reproductive
- 1620 sterilizations;
- 1621 (5) Code Section 40-2-86, which was reserved;
- 1622 (6) Code Section 40-2-86.1, relating to special license plates for square and round dancers;
- 1623 (7) Code Section 40-2-86.2, relating to a special license plate commemorating the Shrine
- 1624 hospitals for children;
- 1625 (8) Code Section 40-2-86.3, which was reserved;
- 1626 (9) Code Section 40-2-86.4, relating to a special license plate commemorating public
- 1627 schools;
- 1628 (10) Code Section 40-2-86.5, relating to a special license plate honoring educators;
- 1629 (11) Code Section 40-2-86.6, which was reserved;
- 1630 (12) Code Section 40-2-86.7, relating to a special license plate commemorating the National
- 1631 Rifle Association;
- 1632 (13) Code Section 40-2-86.8, relating to a special license plate supporting breast cancer
- programs for the medically indigent;
- 1634 (14) Code Section 40-2-86.9, relating to a special license plate commemorating Rotary
- 1635 International;
- 1636 (15) Code Section 40-2-86.10, relating to a special license plate commemorating police
- officers wounded in the line of duty;

1638 (16) Code Section 40-2-86.11, relating to a special license plate commemorating the

- 1639 Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks;
- 1640 (17) Code Section 40-2-86.12, relating to a special license plate displaying the EMS Star of
- 1641 Life symbol;
- 1642 (18) Code Section 40-2-86.13, which was reserved;
- 1643 (19) Code Section 40-2-86.14, relating to a special license plate commemorating licensed
- 1644 physicians;
- 1645 (20) Code Sections 40-2-86.15 through 40-2-86.17, which were reserved;
- 1646 (21) Code 40-2-86.19, relating to a special license plate supporting the Global War on
- 1647 Terrorism and the Operation Enduring Freedom; and
- 1648 (22) Code Section 40-2-86.20, relating to a special license plate supporting the Global War
- on Terrorism and Iraqi freedom.
- 1650 **SECTION 1-76.**
- Said title is further amended by redesignating and revising Code Section 40-2-86.18, relating
- 1652 to a special license plate honoring family members of service members killed in action, as
- 1653 follows:
- 1654 "<del>40-2-86.18</del> <u>40-2-85.3</u>.
- 1655 (a) There shall be issued beginning July 1, 2007, special license plates honoring the family
- members of service members who have been killed in action while serving in the armed
- forces of the United States. The license plate shall be officially designated as the Gold Star
- license plate.
- (b) The commissioner, in cooperation with supporters of this license plate, shall design a
- special license plate for the family members of service members who have been killed in
- action while serving in the armed forces of the United States. The license plates must be
- of the same size as general issue motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique
- design and identifying number, whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six
- an amount to be determined by the commissioner. The license plate shall bear in a
- 1665 conspicuous place a gold star with blue fringe on a white background with a red border.
- 1666 This is the symbol for a fallen service member. In the indented area normally used for the
- 1667 county of residence decal, the words 'Gold Star Family' shall be displayed. The graphic on
- the special license plate shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall
- be no larger than three inches by three inches.
- 1670 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this Code section, this
- 1671 Code section shall not be implemented until such time as the State of Georgia has, through
- a licensing agreement or otherwise, received such license or other permission as may be
- required to implement this Code section. The design of the initial edition of such special

license plate, as well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or parts of the designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this subsection as a matter of law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design or designs, except as authorized by the commissioner.

- (d) On and after July 1, 2007, any Any motor vehicle owner who is a resident of Georgia, other than one registering under the International Registration Plan, upon complying with state laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles shall be issued such a special license plate upon application therefor. Special license plates issued under this Code section shall be renewed annually with a revalidation decal as provided in Code Section 40-2-31. One Gold Star license plate per eligible family member is free of charge, after payment of all ad valorem taxes and other fees due at registration of a motor vehicle. In order to qualify as a family member, the person must be directly related to the fallen service member as a spouse or legal mother or father. If a Gold Star license plate is lost, damaged, or stolen, the eligible family member must pay the reasonable cost, to be established by the department, but not to exceed the cost of other specialty license plates, to replace the Gold Star license plate.
- (e) Whether a service member is deemed to have been killed in action shall be determined by the classification of death as listed by the United States Department of Defense and may be verified from documentation directly from the Department of Defense.
- (f) The Gold Star license plate shall be issued only to family members of service members who resided in Georgia at the time of the death of the service member.
- (g) Renewal decals shall be issued at no cost to the eligible family member upon the payment of ad valorem taxes and other registration fees, provided that the renewal is applied for on or within 30 days prior to the renewal date of the eligible family member. If the eligible family member fails to renew within such time, he or she shall pay a standard renewal fee and be subject to the standard penalties for late payment of ad valorem taxes due on the motor vehicle.
- (h) An eligible family member may request a Gold Star license plate at any time during his or her registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current valid license plate, the license plate shall be issued with appropriate renewal decals attached.
- (i) License plates issued pursuant to this Code section shall not be transferred between vehicles as provided in Code Section 40-2-42, unless the transfer is to another motor vehicle owned by the eligible family member.

1711 (j) Gold Star license plates shall be issued within 30 days of application.

(k) The commissioner is authorized and directed to establish procedures and promulgate

rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this Code section."

1714 **SECTION 1-77.** 

- Said title is further amended by redesignating and revising Code Section 40-2-86.21, relating to revenue-sharing special license plates promoting certain beneficial projects and supporting certain agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations, and Code Section 40-2-86.22, relating to nonrevenue-sharing special license plates promoting certain beneficial projects and supporting certain agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations, as follows:
- 1720 "<del>40-2-86.21</del> 40-2-86.

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- (a)(1) As used in this Code section, the term:
- 1722 (A) 'Manufacturing fee' means a \$25.00 fee paid at the time a metal special license plate is issued.
- 1724 (B) 'Special license plate fee' means a \$35.00 fee paid at the time a special license plate is issued.
- 1726 (C) 'Special tag license plate renewal fee' means a \$25.00 \$35.00 fee paid at the time 1727 a revalidation decal is issued for a special license plate.
  - (2) In accordance with Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the Constitution, the The General Assembly has determined that the issuance of special license plates to support an agency or fund or a program beneficial to the people of this state that is administered by a nonprofit corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and dedicating a portion of the funds raised from the sale of these special license plates is in the best interests of the people of this state. Therefore, the special license plates listed in subsection (o) of this Code section shall be issued by the department beginning on July 1, 2007, if all of the requirements of subsections (b) through (k) of this Code section have been satisfied. The license plates listed in subsections (m) and (n) of this Code section shall continue to be issued so long as they meet the requirements of subsections (b), (c), (f), (g), (i), (j), and (k) of this Code section.

    Any new special license plates adopted on or after July 1, 2010, that share a portion of the revenue raised with any agency, fund, nonprofit organization, or other similar entity shall allocate the revenue in accordance with the formula contained in subsection (l) of this Code section.
- 1743 (b) The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring the special license plate, in 1744 cooperation with the commissioner, shall design special distinctive license plates 1745 appropriate to promote the program benefited by the sale of the special license plate. The 1746 special license plates must be of the same size as general issue motor vehicle license plates

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and shall include a unique design and identifying number, whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six an amount to be determined by the commissioner. No two recipients shall receive identically numbered plates. The graphic on the special license plate shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be no larger than three inches by three inches. The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring the license plate may request the assignment of the first of 100 in a series of license plates upon payment of an additional initial registration fee of \$25.00 for each license plate requested. (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this Code section, no special license plate shall be produced until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing agreement or otherwise, received such licenses or other permissions as may be required to produce the special license plate. The design of the initial edition of any special license plate, as well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or parts of the designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this subsection as a matter of law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design or designs, except as authorized by the commissioner. (d) Beginning on January 1, 2007, any Any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon the payment of the manufacturing fee and the special tag renewal fee appropriate fees in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee shall be able to apply for a special license plate listed in subsection (o) of this Code section. Revalidation decals shall be issued for special license plates in the same manner as provided for general issue license plates. (e) The manufacturing fee and the special tag renewal fee derived from the sale of special license plates listed in subsection (o) of this Code section shall be apportioned as follows: \$1.00 to the county tag agent, \$2.00 to the department, \$12.00 to be deposited into the general fund, and \$10.00 to be dedicated to the sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation as permitted by Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the Constitution. (f)(e) Before the department disburses to the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation funds from the sale of special license plates, the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation must provide a written statement stating the manner in which such funds shall be utilized. In addition, a nonprofit corporation must provide the department with documentation of its nonprofit status under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code. The

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purposes for which the funds shall be utilized must be the same as those specified in subsections (m) and (n) of this Code section authorizing the dedication to the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation of revenue from the sale of special license plates. The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation shall periodically provide to the commissioner an audit of the use of the funds or other evidence of use of the funds satisfactory to the commissioner. If it is determined that the funds are not being used for the purposes set forth in the statement provided by the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation, the department shall withhold payment of such funds until such noncompliance issues are resolved. (g)(f) An applicant may request a special license plate any time during the applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current valid license plate, the special license plate if issued under subsection (m) of this Code section shall be issued with appropriate decals attached upon payment of the manufacturing fee but without payment of the special tag renewal fee. However, special license plates issued under subsections (n) and (o) of this Code section shall be issued with appropriate decals attached upon payment of the manufacturing fee and the special tag license plate renewal fee. (h)(g) On or after July 1, 2010, no No special license plate authorized pursuant to subsection (o)(1) of this Code section shall be issued except upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fees. The special license plate shall have an application period of two years after the date on which the application period becomes effective for payment of the manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee fees, and all fees shall be refunded to applicants; provided, however, that once the department has received 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fees, the sponsor shall not be entitled to a refund. (i)(h) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during the period provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period upon payment of the special tag license plate renewal fee, if applicable, which shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active registrations at any time during the period provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31, the sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation shall be required again to

to manufacture the special license plate.

obtain 1,000 prepaid applications accompanied by the manufacturing fee fees to continue

1821 (j)(i) Special license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to another vehicle in 1822 accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-80. 1823 (k)(j) Special license plates shall be issued within 30 days of application once the 1824 requirements of this Code section have been met. 1825 (1)(k) The commissioner is authorized and directed to establish procedures and promulgate 1826 rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this Code section. 1827 (m)(1)(1) The General Assembly has determined that the following existing special 1828 license plates supporting the agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations listed in this 1829 subsection shall continue to be issued for the purposes indicated and that all of the funds 1830 raised from the manufacturing fee, less a \$1.00 fee to be paid to the county tag agent and 1831 a \$2.00 manufacturing fee to be paid to the department, shall be disbursed to the agency, 1832 fund, or nonprofit corporation indicated in this subsection. The special license plates 1833 listed in this subsection shall not be subject to a manufacturing fee, a special tag license 1834 plate fee, and a special license plate renewal fee. The revenue disbursement for the 1835 special license plates listed in this subsection shall be as follows: 1836 (A) Manufacturing fee – \$25.00 of which \$24.00 is to be deposited into the general 1837 fund and \$1.00 to be paid to the local county tag agent; 1838 (B) Special license plate fee – \$35.00 of which \$25.00 is to be deposited into the 1839 general fund and \$10.00 is to be dedicated to the sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit 1840 corporation as permitted by Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the Constitution; 1841 and (C) Special license plate renewal fee – \$35.00 of which \$25.00 is to be deposited into 1842 1843 the general fund and \$10.00 is to be dedicated to the sponsoring agency, fund, or 1844 nonprofit corporation as permitted by Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(n) of the 1845 Constitution. (2) Special license plates promoting the Nongame-Endangered Wildlife Program of the 1846 1847 Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The funds raised by the sale of these special 1848 license plates shall be disbursed to the Nongame Wildlife Conservation and Wildlife 1849 Habitat Acquisition Fund of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the 1850 purposes enumerated in subsection (b) of Code Section 12-3-602. Such license plates 1851 shall not include a space for a county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Give Wildlife a Chance' in lieu of the name of the county of issuance. 1852 (3) A special license plate promoting conservation and enhancement of trout populations. 1853 1854 The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Wildlife

restoration and management programs.

Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources to supplement trout

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(4) A special license plate supporting the Bobwhite Quail Restoration Initiative. The

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1858 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Wildlife 1859 Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources to conduct programs 1860 designed to enhance the bobwhite quail population in this state. Such programs may 1861 include the creation of habitat demonstration areas on state managed wildlife lands, 1862 education programs, technical assistance to private landowners in the creation and 1863 maintenance of bobwhite quail habitats on their lands, and projects to encourage public 1864 support for the license plate and the activities it funds. The Department of Natural 1865 Resources may enter into such contractual agreements as may be appropriate to further 1866 the objectives of the Bobwhite Quail Restoration Initiative, including entering into 1867 contractual agreements whereby private landowners, public agencies, or corporate entities 1868 create, preserve, or enhance habitat for bobwhite quail in return for the payment of 1869 incentives. Such license plate shall not include a space for a county decal but shall 1870 instead bear the legend 'Support Wildlife' in lieu of the name of the county of issuance. 1871 (5) Special license plates promoting the conservation of wildflowers within this state. 1872 The funds raised by the sale of these special license plates shall be disbursed to the 1873 Department of Transportation to be deposited in the Roadside Enhancement and 1874 Beautification Fund established by Code Section 32-6-75.2 and shall be expended only 1875 for the purposes enumerated in Code Section 32-6-75.2 and Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(1) of the Constitution of the State of Georgia. 1876 1877 (6) Special license plates promoting the dog and cat reproductive sterilization support 1878 program of the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The funds raised by the sale of these special license plates shall be disbursed to the Georgia Department of Agriculture and 1879 1880 shall be deposited in the special fund for support of the dog and cat reproductive 1881 sterilization support program created by Code Section 4-15-1 and Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(m) of the Constitution of the State of Georgia. 1882 (7) Special license plates to honor Georgia educators. The funds raised by the sale of 1883 1884 these special license plates shall be disbursed to a charitable foundation designated by the State School Superintendent and used to fund educational programs, grants to teachers, 1885 1886 and scholarships. The license plates shall display the phrase 'Georgia Educators Make 1887 A Difference' and a ripe Red Delicious apple shall be depicted to the left of the 1888 identifying number of each plate. 1889 (8)(A) The commissioner in cooperation with a college or university may design a 1890 special license plate to be issued commemorating that college or university, which 1891 license plate shall be similar in design to the license plate issued to all other residents 1892 of the state except that the logo or emblem of the college or university shall be placed 1893 on the license plate along with the letters and numbers on the license plate. The name

1894 of the college or university shall be imprinted on such special license plate in lieu of the 1895 county name decal. 1896 (B) Any college or university that enters into an agreement with the commissioner 1897 pursuant to this paragraph shall waive any royalty fees to which it might otherwise be 1898 entitled for use of its seal, symbol, emblem, or logotype as provided in this paragraph. 1899 (C) Each college or university located in Georgia that enters into an agreement with 1900 the commissioner pursuant to this paragraph shall designate a charitable foundation 1901 which shall annually receive an allocation from the special license plate and special 1902 license plate renewal fees collected as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection. 1903 Special license plates issued under this paragraph shall be transferred between vehicles 1904 as provided in Code Section 40-2-42. 1905 (D) The funds allocated for colleges and universities located in Georgia shall be 1906 delivered by the department to the charitable foundation designated by the particular 1907 college or university to support needs based, academic, financial aid scholarships for 1908 eligible undergraduate students enrolled in the college or university. The funds 1909 otherwise allocated for colleges and universities located outside the State of Georgia 1910 shall be placed into the general fund. 1911 (E) Each college or university shall review and approve plans for the implementation 1912 of these scholarship programs by the applicable charitable foundation. These plans shall include, but need not be limited to, criteria for the awarding of the scholarships 1913 1914 and procedures for determining the recipients. 1915 (o)(1) The General Assembly has determined that license plates supporting the agencies, 1916 funds, or nonprofit corporations listed in this subsection shall be issued for the purposes 1917 indicated and with a portion of the revenue being disbursed to the agency, fund, or 1918 nonprofit corporation indicated in this subsection. The revenue disbursement for the 1919 special license plates in this subsection shall be as described in subsection (e) of this 1920 Code section. 1921 (2)(9) A special license plate for the Georgia Center for the Book to support the purchase 1922 of books for public libraries in Georgia. The funds raised by the sale of this special 1923 license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia Center for the Book. 1924 (3)(10) A special license plate for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta to support the work 1925 this pediatric hospital system does in the State of Georgia. The funds raised by the sale 1926 of this special license plate shall be disbursed to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. 1927 (4)(11) A special license plate for the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home to support 1928 the implementation and operation of the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home. The 1929 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Department 1930 of Veterans Service for use in operating the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home.

1931 (5)(12) A special license plate for the Georgia Automobile Racing Hall of Fame 1932 Association to promote the Georgia Automobile Racing Hall of Fame Association, which 1933 is devoted to preserving the history of automobile racing in Georgia. The funds raised 1934 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia Automobile 1935 Racing Hall of Fame Association. 1936 (6)(13) A special license plate for the Alzheimer's Association, Georgia Chapter, to help 1937 eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research and to enhance care 1938 and support for individuals, their families, and caregivers. The funds raised by the sale 1939 of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Alzheimer's Association, Georgia 1940 Chapter. 1941 (7)(14) A special license plate for the school health and physical education program to 1942 help fund school health and physical education programs. The funds raised by the sale 1943 of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Department of Education. 1944 (8)(15) A special license plate for stroke awareness, treatment, and prevention to support 1945 programs aiding stroke victims in Georgia. Such license plate shall not include a space 1946 for a county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Stroke Awareness' in lieu of the 1947 name of the county of issuance. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate 1948 shall be disbursed to the Center for Telehealth of the Medical College of Georgia. 1949 (9)(16) A special license plate for Project Lifesaver promoting the establishment of a Project Lifesaver or similar type of program by local law enforcement agencies. Project 1950 1951 Lifesaver's mission is to use state of the art technology in assisting those who care for 1952 victims of Alzheimer's disease and other related mental dysfunction disorders and victims who become lost. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be 1953 1954 disbursed to the Department of Public Safety or a nonprofit corporation organized 1955 exclusively for the purpose of establishing a Project Lifesaver or similar type of program by local law enforcement agencies. 1956 (10)(17) A special license plate for pediatric cancer to raise funds to support the 1957 1958 treatment of pediatric cancer. Such license plate shall not include a space for a county 1959 name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Cure Kids' Cancer' in lieu of the name of the 1960 county of issuance. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be 1961 disbursed to the Department of Community Health to be deposited in the Indigent Care 1962 Trust Fund created by Code Section 31-8-152 to fund pediatric cancer screening and 1963 treatment related programs for those children who are medically indigent and may have 1964 cancer. 1965 (11)(18) A special license plate for the child care industry to promote the child care 1966 industry by encouraging higher educational standards and providing for professional 1967 camaraderie for child care providers. Such license plate shall not include a space for a

1968 county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Support Improved Child Care' in lieu 1969 of the name of the county of issuance. The funds raised by the sale of this special license 1970 plate shall be disbursed to the Minority Alliance for Child Care Development Advocates, 1971 Inc., for the development of programs to help improve child care. 1972 (12)(19) A special license plate to display the motto, 'In God We Trust.' The funds 1973 raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Boy Scouts of 1974 America for the development of scouting programs. 1975 (13)(20) A special license plate for child abuse prevention. Such license plate shall not 1976 include a space for a county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Prevent Child 1977 Abuse' in lieu of the name of the county of issuance. The funds raised by the sale of this 1978 special license plate shall be disbursed to the Foster Family Foundation of Georgia for 1979 the development of programs to help victims of child abuse. 1980 (14)(21) A special license plate for the Thanks Mom and Dad Fund. The funds raised 1981 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Department of Human 1982 Services to address the key needs of the state's older population or a nonprofit corporation 1983 organized to serve the needs of the state's older population. 1984 (15)(22) A special license plate for pediatric cancer research. The funds raised by the 1985 sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Joanna McAfee Childhood 1986 Cancer Foundation for support of pediatric cancer research. The design of the special 1987 license plate provided for in this paragraph shall include the words 'Joanna McAfee 1988 Childhood Cancer Foundation' horizontally across the bottom of the plate in lieu of the 1989 county name. 1990 (16)(23) A special license plate for supporting beautification projects in Cobb County. 1991 The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to Keep Cobb 1992 Beautiful, Inc., for support of beautification projects in Cobb County. 1993 (17)(24) A special license plate for the AIDS Survival Project. The funds raised by the 1994 sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the AIDS Survival Project which 1995 is committed to providing people living with HIV the information and support they need 1996 to live healthy and productive lives. 1997 (18)(25) A special license endorsing 'Support Our Troops.' The funds raised by the sale 1998 of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia National Guard Family 1999 Support Foundation, Incorporated. 2000 (19)(26) A special license plate for the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The funds raised 2001 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to Georgia Sons of Confederate 2002 Veterans. 2003 (20)(27) A special license plate for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as

'Lou Gehrig's disease,' to support research and education on amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the ALS

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2006 Association of Georgia. 2007 (21)(28) A special license plate for foster parents to support programs for foster parents 2008 in Georgia. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed 2009 to The Adoptive and Foster Parent Association of Georgia, Inc., for support of foster 2010 parents in Georgia. 2011 (22)(29) A special license plate for the Atlanta Braves Foundation to assist the charities 2012 supported by the foundation. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate 2013 shall be disbursed to the Department of Community Affairs or such other public agency 2014 or nonprofit corporation as may be designated. 2015 (23)(30) A special license plate for the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation to assist the 2016 charities supported by the foundation. The funds raised by the sale of this special license 2017 plate shall be disbursed to the Atlanta Falcons Youth Foundation. Such license plate 2018 shall not include a space for a county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 2019 'Atlanta Falcons' in lieu of the name of the county of issuance. 2020 (24)(31) A special license plate for supporting beautification projects in Georgia. The 2021 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to Keep Georgia 2022 Beautiful Foundation, Inc., for support of beautification projects in Georgia. 2023 (25)(32) A special license plate displaying the logo of Choose Life, Inc. The words 'Choose Life' must appear at the bottom. The funds raised by the sale of this special 2024 2025 license plate shall be disbursed to Choose Life of Georgia, Inc., to be distributed among 2026 nonprofit corporations in Georgia that counsel women to consider adoption. (26)(33) A special license plate supporting education on the maritime history of 2027 2028 Georgia's coast. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be 2029 disbursed to The Georgia Maritime Foundation, Inc., for use in programs supporting education on the maritime history of Georgia. 2030 2031 (27)(34) A special license plate supporting programs for persons with brain-related brain 2032 related disorders and disabilities. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to Pilot International, for support of programs for persons with 2033 2034 brain-related brain related disorders in Georgia. 2035 (28)(35) A special license plate supporting agriculture in Georgia. The funds raised by 2036 the sale of this special license plate shall be evenly split between Georgia 4-H and the 2037 Georgia Association of Future Farmers of America to fund projects promoting agriculture 2038 in Georgia. 2039 (29)(36) A special license plate promoting the Georgia equine industry. The funds raised 2040 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Agricultural Commodity 2041 Commission for Equines.

2042 (30)(37) A special license plate promoting African American history and tourism in 2043 Georgia. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to 2044 organizations dedicated to the preservation of African American history in Georgia. 2045 (31)(38) A special license plate honoring veterans who have been awarded the Bronze 2046 Star. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the 2047 National Guard Family Foundation. 2048 (32)(39) A special license plate promoting the arts in Georgia. The funds raised by the 2049 sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia Council for the Arts. 2050 (33)(40) A special license plate supporting programs for the treatment of autism. The 2051 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Department 2052 of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities for the support of programs for the 2053 treatment of autism in Georgia. 2054 (34)(41) A special license plate honoring the work of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. 2055 The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to The Garden 2056 Club of Georgia, Inc., and used to fund scholarships that are awarded by the club. 2057 (35)(42) A special license plate promoting the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation. The 2058 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Georgia 2059 Junior Golf Foundation. 2060 (36)(43) A special license plate commemorating 100 years of scouting in the United 2061 States. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the 2062 Boy Scouts of America for the development of scouting programs. 2063 (37)(44) A special license plate supporting Cobb County Public Schools. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Cobb County 2064 2065 Public Schools Educational Foundation and used to fund educational programs, grants 2066 to teachers, and scholarships in the Cobb County Public School System. (38)(45) A special license plate supporting the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. The funds 2067 2068 raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be charged and disbursed to the 2069 Nongame Wildlife Conservation and Wildlife Habitat Acquisition Fund and used to fund 2070 nongame wildlife conservation and education programs. The design of the license plate 2071 provided for in this paragraph shall include the words 'Jekyll Island – Georgia's Jewel' 2072 horizontally across the bottom of the plate in lieu of the county name, with a diamond 2073 jewel symbol in place of the dash. 2074 (39)(46) A special license plate commemorating and supporting the sport of soccer in 2075 Georgia. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to 2076 the Georgia State Soccer Association, Inc., for the development and promotion of soccer 2077 programs in the State of Georgia. Such license plate shall not include a space for a

county decal but shall instead bear the legend 'gasoccer.org'.

2079 (40)(47) A special license plate for the Georgia Aquarium to support its mission as an 2080 entertaining, educational, and scientific institution and to promote the conservation of 2081 aquatic biodiversity throughout the world. The funds raised by the sale of this special 2082 plate shall be disbursed to Georgia Aquarium, Inc. Such license plate shall not include 2083 a space for a county name decal but shall instead bear the legend 'Georgia Aquarium' in 2084 lieu of the name of the county of issuance. 2085 (n)(n)(1) The General Assembly has determined that the following special license plates 2086 supporting the agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations listed in this subsection shall be 2087 issued for the purposes indicated and that all of the funds raised from the manufacturing 2088 fee and the special tag renewal fee, less a \$1.00 fee to be paid to the county tag agent and 2089 a \$2.00 manufacturing fee to be paid to the department, shall be disbursed to the agency, 2090 fund, or nonprofit corporation indicated in this subsection. The special license plates 2091 listed in this subsection shall be subject to a special tag renewal fee. The special license 2092 plates listed in this subsection shall be subject to a manufacturing fee, a special license plate fee, and a special license plate renewal fee. The revenue disbursement for the 2093 2094 special license plates listed in this subsection shall be as follows: 2095 (A) Manufacturing fee - \$25.00 of which \$24.00 is to be deposited into the general 2096 fund and \$1.00 to be paid to the local county tag agent; 2097 (B) Special license plate fee - \$35.00 of which \$13.00 is to be deposited into the 2098 general fund and \$22.00 is to be dedicated to the sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit 2099 corporation; and (C) Special license plate renewal fee - \$35.00 of which \$13.00 is to be deposited into 2100 2101 the general fund and \$22.00 is to be dedicated to the sponsoring agency, fund, or 2102 nonprofit corporation. 2103 (2) A special license plate promoting the United States Disabled Athletes Fund, for the 2104 support of disabled athletes. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate 2105 shall be disbursed as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection to the United States 2106 Disabled Athletes Fund. 2107 (3) A special license plate commemorating Civil War battlefields and historic sites. The 2108 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed as provided in 2109 paragraph (1) of this subsection to the Civil War Commission for the acquisition of Civil 2110 War battlefields and associated Civil War historic sites in this state and for the 2111 maintenance, protection, and interpretation of the same as provided by Article 5 of 2112 Chapter 7 of Title 50.

(4) A special license plate promoting historic preservation efforts. The funds raised by

the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed as provided in paragraph (1) of this

subsection to the Department of Natural Resources for use by the Historic Preservation

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2116 Division to fund historic preservation programs in the state through the Georgia historic 2117 preservation grant program as otherwise authorized by law. 2118 (5) A special license plate promoting bicycle safety. The funds raised by the sale of this 2119 special license plate shall be disbursed as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection to 2120 the Governor's Highway Safety Program administered by the Office of Highway Safety 2121 in the Department of Public Safety. 2122 (6) A special license plate honoring families with a member serving in the military. The 2123 funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed as provided in 2124 paragraph (1) of this subsection to the Department of Veterans Service for use by the 2125 National Guard Foundation in carrying out such programs and purposes as may be 2126 contractually agreed upon by the department and the foundation. 2127 (7) A special license plate promoting 'Support Georgia Troops.' The funds raised by the 2128 sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed as provided in paragraph (1) of this 2129 subsection to the Department of Veterans Service for use by the National Guard 2130 Foundation in carrying out such programs and purposes as may be contractually agreed 2131 upon by the department and the foundation. 2132 (8) A special license plate promoting NASCAR. The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection notwithstanding, from the additional \$25.00 \$35.00 special license plate 2133 2134 renewal fee charged for the issuance and renewal of the NASCAR license plates 2135 authorized under this paragraph, \$10.25 shall be used by the department for purchasing 2136 plates from the supplier of the plates, as designated by NASCAR, and royalty costs, 2137 \$10.00 shall be deposited in the general fund, and \$14.75 shall be disbursed to the Governor's Highway Safety Program administered by the Office of Highway Safety in 2138 2139 the Department of Public Safety. 2140 (9) A special license plate to support breast cancer related programs for the medically indigent. The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection notwithstanding, from the 2141 2142 additional \$35.00 special license plate fee or special license plate renewal fee charged for 2143 the issuance and renewal of breast cancer license plates authorized under this paragraph, \$12.95 shall be deposited in the general fund and \$22.05 shall be deposited in the 2144 Indigent Care Trust Fund created by Code Section 31-8-152 to fund cancer screening and 2145 2146 treatment related to programs for those persons who are medically indigent and may have 2147 breast cancer. To the extent consistent with Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(i) of 2148 the Constitution and Article 6 of Chapter 8 of Title 31, such programs may include 2149 education, breast cancer screening, grants-in-aid to breast cancer victims, pharmacy 2150 assistance programs for breast cancer victims, and other projects to encourage public support for the special license plate and the activities which it funds. Such design shall 2151

include a logo the same as the United States postal stamp supporting breast cancer

2153 <u>research and bearing the slogan 'Fund the Fight. Find A Cure.' over the sketch of a</u>
2154 <u>woman and the breast cancer awareness pink ribbon symbol.</u>

2155 <del>40-2-86.22</del> <u>40-2-86.1</u>.

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(a) The General Assembly has determined that the issuance of special license plates to support an agency or fund or a program beneficial to the people of this state that is administered by a nonprofit corporation organized under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code and, subject to the appropriation process of the General Assembly, appropriating a portion of the funds raised from the sale of these special license plates is in the best interests of the people of this state. Therefore, the license plates listed in subsection (1) of this Code section shall be issued by the department beginning on January 1, 2007, if all of the requirements of subsections (b) through (k) of this Code section have been satisfied. (b) The commissioner, in cooperation with the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring the special license plate, shall design special distinctive license plates intended to promote the program benefited by the sale of the special license plate. The special license plates must be of the same size as general issue motor vehicle license plates and shall include a unique design and identifying number, whereby the total number of characters does not exceed six an amount to be determined by the commissioner. No two recipients shall receive identically numbered plates. The graphic on the special license plate shall be placed to the left of the alphanumeric characters and shall be no larger than three inches by three inches. The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation sponsoring the license plate may request the assignment of the first of 100 in a series of license plates upon payment of an additional initial registration fee of \$25.00 for each license plate requested. (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of this Code section, no special license plate shall be produced until such time as the State of Georgia has, through a licensing agreement or otherwise, received such licenses or other permissions as may be required to produce the special license plate. The design of the initial edition of any special license plate, as well as the design of subsequent editions and excepting only any part or parts of the designs owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The commissioner may take such steps as may be necessary to give notice of and protect such right, including the copyright or copyrights. However, such steps shall be cumulative of the ownership and exclusive use and control established by this subsection as a matter of law, and no person shall reproduce or otherwise use such design

or designs, except as authorized by the commissioner.

(d) Beginning on January 1, 2007, any Any Georgia resident who is the owner of a motor vehicle, except a vehicle registered under the International Registration Plan, upon complying with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles and upon the payment of a manufacturing fee of \$25.00 and a special license plate fee of \$35.00, in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee, shall be able to apply for a special license plate listed in subsection (l) of this Code section. Revalidation decals shall be issued for special license plates in the same manner as provided for general issue license plates, with the addition of a \$35.00 special license plate renewal fee.

- (e) The manufacturing fee, special license plate fee, and special license plate renewal fee derived from the sale of special license plates contained in subsection (l) of this Code section shall be deposited into the general fund. The sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation, subject to the appropriation process of the General Assembly, may request that the funds derived from the sale of special license plates be appropriated to the department for disbursement to such agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation.
- (f) Before the department disburses to the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation funds from the sale of special license plates, the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation must provide a written statement stating the manner in which such funds shall be utilized. In addition, a nonprofit corporation must provide the department with documentation of its nonprofit status under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the Internal Revenue Code. The purposes for which the funds shall be utilized must be the same as those specified in subsection (l) of this Code section authorizing the potential appropriation to the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation of revenue from the sale of special license plates. The agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation shall periodically provide to the commissioner an audit of the use of the funds or other evidence of use of the funds satisfactory to the commissioner. If it is determined that the funds are not being used for the purposes set forth in the statement provided by the agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation, the department shall withhold payment of such funds until such noncompliance issues are resolved.
- (g) An applicant may request a special license plate any time during the applicant's registration period. If such a license plate is to replace a current valid license plate, the special license plate shall be issued with appropriate decals attached, upon the payment of any applicable registration fees, the manufacturing fee, and the special license plate fee.
- (h) No special license plate authorized pursuant to subsection (l) of this Code section shall be issued except upon the receipt by the department of at least 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fee. The special license plate shall have an application period of two years after January 1, 2007, from the date of authorization for payment of the manufacturing fee. After such time if the minimum number of applications is not met, the

department shall not continue to accept the manufacturing fee, and all fees shall be refunded to applicants; provided, however, that once the department has received 1,000 prepaid applications along with the manufacturing fee, the sponsor shall not be entitled to a refund.

- (i) The department shall not be required to continue to manufacture the special license plate if the number of active registrations falls below 500 registrations at any time during the period provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31. A current registrant may continue to renew such special license plate during his or her annual registration period upon payment of an additional \$25.00 annual special tag \$35.00 special license plate renewal fee, which fee shall be collected by the county tag agent at the time of collection of other registration fees and shall be remitted to the state as provided in Code Section 40-2-34. The department may continue to issue such special license plates that it has in its inventory to assist in achieving the minimum number of registrations. If the special license plate falls below 500 active registrations at any time during the period provided for in subsection (b) of Code Section 40-2-31, the sponsoring agency, fund, or nonprofit corporation shall be required again to obtain 1,000 prepaid applications accompanied by the manufacturing fee to continue to manufacture the special license plate.
- 2242 (j) Special license plates shall be transferred from one vehicle to another vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Code Section 40-2-80.
- 2244 (k) Special license plates shall be issued within 30 days of application once the requirements of this Code section have been met.
  - (l)(1) The General Assembly has determined that license plates promoting the agencies, funds, or nonprofit corporations listed in this subsection shall be issued for the purposes indicated and the revenue shall be deposited in the general fund, subject to the appropriation process of the General Assembly.
    - (2) A special license plate identifying persons with diabetes. The main purpose of the special license plate is that law enforcement officers and emergency personnel will be alerted to the potential for special needs before they approach the driver of a vehicle, especially if the vehicle has been involved in an accident. The funds raised by the sale of this special license plate shall be deposited in the general fund.
- 2255 (3) A special license plate honoring all veterans who have served in the armed services 2256 of the United States. All of these men and women have sacrificed a portion of their lives 2257 in order to serve their country and protect our freedom. The funds raised by the sale of 2258 this special license plate shall be deposited in the general fund.
- 2259 (4) A special license plate honoring the Georgia Association of Realtors. The 2260 Association is being honored for its long-standing support of housing opportunities for 2261 all citizens of this state, private property rights, and all organizations that assist people

2262 in achieving the American dream of home ownership. The funds raised by the sale of this 2263 special license plate shall be deposited in the general fund. 2264 (5) A special license plate honoring Georgia municipal clerks. The municipal clerk's 2265 office provides the professional link connecting citizens with their local governing bodies 2266 and agencies of government at other levels. The funds raised by the sale of this license 2267 plate shall be deposited in the general fund. 2268 (6) A special license plate identifying residents of the State of Georgia who hold an 2269 unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communication Commission. The special license plate shall be inscribed with the 2270 2271 official amateur radio call letters of such applicant as assigned by the Federal 2272 Communication Commission. The funds raised by the sale of this license plate shall be 2273 deposited in the general fund. 2274 (7)(A) A special license plate to be issued for alternative fueled vehicles, which license 2275 plate shall be similar in design to the license plate issued to all other residents of the state 2276 except that the commissioner shall place a distinctive logo or emblem on the license plate 2277 which shall distinguish the vehicle as an alternative fueled vehicle eligible to travel in 2278 travel lanes designated for such vehicles under paragraph (4) of subsection (a) of Code 2279 Section 32-9-4. The words 'alternative fueled vehicle' shall be imprinted on such special 2280 license plate in lieu of the county name decal. The funds raised by the sale of this license 2281 plate shall be deposited in the general fund. 2282 (B) As used in this paragraph, the term: 2283 (i) 'Alternative fuel' means methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols; mixtures 2284 containing 85 percent or more or such other percentage, but not less than 70 percent, 2285 as determined by the United States secretary of energy, by rule as it existed on January 2286 1, 1997, to provide for requirements relating to cold start, safety, or vehicle functions, by volume of methanol, denatured ethanol, and other alcohols with gasoline or other 2287 2288 fuels; natural gas; liquefied petroleum gas; hydrogen; coal derived liquid fuels; fuels 2289 other than alcohol derived from biological materials; electricity including electricity from solar energy; and any other fuel the United States secretary of energy determined 2290 2291 by rule as it existed on January 1, 1997, is substantially not petroleum and would yield 2292 substantial energy security benefits and substantial environmental benefits. 2293 (ii) 'Alternative fueled vehicle' means: 2294 (I) Any vehicle fueled by alternative fuel as defined in division (i) of this 2295 subparagraph; or 2296 (II) A hybrid vehicle, which means a motor vehicle which draws propulsion energy

from onboard sources of stored energy which include an internal combustion or heat

engine using combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy storage system; and, in the

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case of a passenger automobile or light truck, means for any 2000 and later model, a vehicle which has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7401, et seq., and meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying California low-emission vehicle standard under Section 243(e)(2) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7583(c)(2), for that make and model year or, for any 2004 and later model, a vehicle which has received a certificate that such vehicle meets or exceeds the Bin 5 Tier II emission level established in regulations prescribed by the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under Section 202(i) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 7521(i), for that make and model year vehicle and which achieves a composite label fuel economy greater than or equal to 1.5 times the Model Year 2002 EPA composite class average for the same vehicle class and which is made by a manufacturer.

(8) A special license plate for antique or hobby or special interest vehicles. As used in this paragraph, the term 'antique or hobby or special interest vehicle' means any motor vehicle or motor cycle or a motor vehicle which as been designed and manufactured to resemble an antique or historical vehicle and which is owned as a collector's item and for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades and similar uses but which may be used for general transportation. No owner of such antique vehicle or hobby or special interest vehicle shall be required to obtain any special permits for its operation on the roads of this state. The funds raised by the sale of this license plate shall be deposited in the general fund.

(9)(A) A special license plate for owners of a private passenger car or truck used for personal transportation, who are firefighters certified pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 4 of Title 25 and who are members of fire departments certified pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 and motor vehicle owners who are certified firefighters of legally organized volunteer fire departments which have been certified pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25. Such license plate shall be inscribed with such letters, numbers, words, symbols, or a combination thereof as determined by the commissioner to identify the owner as a certified firefighter. The chiefs of the various fire departments shall furnish to the commissioner a list of the certified firefighters of their fire departments who reside in Georgia which list shall be updated as necessary. The funds raised by the sale of this license plate shall be deposited in the general fund. (B) Should a certified firefighter who has been issued a special and distinctive license plate be separated from such firefighter's department for any reason other than retirement from employment, the chief of such fire department shall obtain the separated member's license plate at the time of the separation and shall forward same to the commissioner along with a certificate to the effect that such person has been

2336 separated, and thereupon the commissioner shall reissue a regular license plate, at no 2337 additional charge, to such former certified firefighter to replace the special and 2338 distinctive plate. Should a certified firefighter return to service with the same or 2339 another fire department, the chief of such fire department shall likewise secure the 2340 regular license plate of such person and return same to the commissioner, along with 2341 a certificate to the effect that such person has become a member of the fire department, 2342 and the effective date thereof, whereupon the commissioner shall, upon application and 2343 upon the payment of a \$35.00 manufacturing fee and all other applicable registration 2344 and licensing fees at the time of registration, reissue a special and distinctive license 2345 plate to such new member to replace the returned regular plate. Upon such request for 2346 a change in plate for a certified firefighter who is separated from a fire department, the 2347 chief of the fire department shall furnish such member with a copy of the chief's letter 2348 to the commissioner requesting the appropriate change in plate, which copy of such 2349 letter may be used by such member pending the issuance of the new plate. 2350 (C) Motor vehicle owners who were firefighters certified pursuant to Article 1 of 2351 Chapter 4 of Title 25 or were members of fire departments certified pursuant to Article 2352 2 of Chapter 3 of Title 25 and who retired from employment as such shall continue to 2353 be eligible for the firefighter license plates issued under this paragraph the same as if 2354 they continued to be certified and employed as firefighters. Whenever such a certified 2355 firefighter who has been issued a special and distinctive license plate is retired from 2356 employment with such firefighter's department, the chief of such fire department shall 2357 forward to the commissioner a certificate to the effect that such person has been retired. 2358 (D) The spouse of a deceased firefighter shall continue to be eligible to be issued a 2359 distinctive special firefighter's license plate as provided in this paragraph so long as 2360 such person does not remarry. (10) A special license plate supporting Rotary International. The design of the special 2361 2362 license plate, excepting only the Rotary International logo and motto 'Service Above Self' 2363 and the years 1905-2005 and any other part of the design owned by others and licensed to the state, shall be owned solely by the State of Georgia for its exclusive use and 2364 2365 control, except as authorized by the commissioner. The funds raised by the sale of this 2366 license plate shall be deposited in the general fund. 2367 (11) A special license plate for any Georgia resident who is the owner of a private passenger motor vehicle and provides proof of certification or licensure by the State of 2368 2369 Georgia as an emergency medical technician, paramedic, or owner of a licensed ambulance service in the State of Georgia promoting the EMS Star of Life Symbol. Such 2370 2371 license plate shall display the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's EMS

Star of Life Symbol and the initials 'EMS.' The funds raised by the sale of this license

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plate shall be deposited in the general fund." 2373 2374 SECTION 1-78. 2375 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles, is amended 2376 by revising paragraph (12) of Code Section 40-5-1, relating to definitions, as follows: 2377 "(12) 'Mail' means to deposit in the United States mail properly addressed and with 2378 postage prepaid. For purposes of payment of a reinstatement or restoration fee for a 2379 driver's license suspension or revocation, 'mail' shall also mean payment via means other 2380 than personal appearance." 2381 SECTION 1-79. 2382 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 40-5-25, relating to 2383 driver's license applications and fees, as follows: 2384 "(a) Every application for an instruction permit or for a driver's license shall be made upon 2385 a form furnished by the department. Every application shall be accompanied by the proper 2386 The fees shall be as established by the Board of Driver Services, 2387 <del>commissioner,</del> not to exceed: 2388 (1) For instruction permits for Classes A, B, C, and M drivers' 2389 \$ 10.00 2390 (2) For five-year Classes A, B, C, and M noncommercial drivers' 2391 20.00 licenses..... 2392 (2.1) For ten-year eight-year Classes A, B, C, and M noncommercial 2393 <del>35.00</del> <u>32.00</u> 2394 (3) For Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' licenses..... 20.00 2395 (4) For application for Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' 2396 licenses or a Class P commercial driver's instruction permit..... 35.00 2397 (5) For Class P commercial drivers' instruction permits for Classes 2398 A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' licenses...... 10.00 2399 (6) For Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' licenses, initial 2400 70.00 issuance requiring a road test............................... 2401 (7) For Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' licenses, initial 2402 issuance not requiring a road test.............. 20.00 2403 (8) For renewal of Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers' 2404 licenses.... 20.00

	(8.1) For renewal of five-year Classes A, B, C, and M	2405
20.00	noncommercial drivers' licenses	2406
	(8.2) For renewal of ten-year eight-year Classes A, B, C, and M	2407
<del>35.00</del> <u>32.00</u>	noncommercial drivers' licenses	2408
	(9) Initial issuance of Classes A, B, C, and M commercial drivers'	2409
	licenses and Class P commercial drivers' instruction permits shall	2410
	include all endorsement fees within the license fee. Each	2411
5.00	endorsement added after initial licensing	2412
e applicable fees	The commissioner may by rule provide incentive discounts in otherwis	2413
means other than	reflecting cost savings to the department where a license is renewed by	2414

reflecting cost savings to the department where a license is renewed by means other than personal appearance. The discount for renewal of a Class C or Class M license shall be \$5.00 and any other discounts shall be as determined by the commissioner. Except as provided in Code Section 40-5-36, relating to veterans' licenses, and Code Section 40-5-149, relating to application fees for public school bus drivers, there shall be no exceptions to the fee requirements for a commercial driver's license or a commercial driver's license permit. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code section, there shall be no fee whatsoever for replacement of any driver's license solely due to a change of the licensee's name or address, provided that such replacement license shall be valid only for the remaining period of such original license; and provided, further, that only one such free replacement license may be obtained within the period for which the license was originally issued. Any application for the replacement of a lost license pursuant to Code Section 40-5-31 or due to a change in the licensee's name or address submitted within 150 days of the expiration of said license shall be treated as an application for renewal subject to the applicable license fees as set forth in this subsection. The maximum period for which any driver's license shall be issued is eight years."

2430 **SECTION 1-80.** 

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Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (g) Code Section 40-5-67.1, relating to chemical tests for drugs or alcohol and implied consent notices, as follows:

"(g)(1) A person whose driver's license is suspended or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to this Code section shall <u>remit to the department a \$150.00 filing fee together with a request, in writing, for a hearing within ten business days from the date of personal notice or receipt of notice sent by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery, return receipt requested, or the right to said hearing shall be deemed waived. Within 30 days after receiving a written request for a hearing,</u>

2440 the department shall hold a hearing as is provided in Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia 2441 Administrative Procedure Act.' The hearing shall be recorded." 2442 SECTION 1-81. 2443 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) and enacting a new subsection in 2444 Code Section 40-5-103, relating to identification card fees, as follows: 2445 "(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this Code section, the department 2446 shall collect a fee of \$20.00 for a five-year card and a fee of \$35.00 for a ten-year an 2447 eight-year card, which fee shall be deposited in the state treasury in the same manner as 2448 other motor vehicle driver's license fees. 2449 (a.1) The maximum period for which any identification card shall be issued is eight years." 2450 SECTION 1-82. 2451 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 40-8-90, relating to 2452 restrictions on use of blue lights on vehicles, as follows: 2453 "(a)(1) Except as provided in this paragraph and subsection (b) of this Code section, it 2454 shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to operate any motor vehicle 2455 equipped with or containing a device capable of producing any blue lights, whether 2456 flashing, blinking, revolving, or stationary, except: 2457 (A) Motor vehicles owned or leased by any federal, state, or local law enforcement 2458 agency; (B) Motor vehicles with a permit granted by a state agency to bear such lights; or 2459 (C) Antique, hobby, and special interest vehicles, as defined in subsection (a) of Code 2460 2461 Section 40-2-77 paragraph (8) of subsection (1) of Code Section 40-2-86.1, which may 2462 display a blue light or lights of up to one inch in diameter as part of any such vehicle's 2463 rear stop lamps, rear turning indicator, rear hazard lamps, and rear reflectors. 2464 Any person who violates paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be guilty of a (2) 2465 misdemeanor." 2466 SECTION 1-83. 2467 Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and businesses, is amended by revising Code Section 43-25-3, relating to licenses to operate a motor vehicle 2468 2469 racetrack, as follows: 2470 "43-25-3. 2471 Application for a license to operate or conduct a racetrack or other place for the holding of 2472 motor vehicle races or exhibitions shall be made in writing to the Safety Fire

Commissioner on a form prescribed by or furnished by the Safety Fire Commissioner. The

application form shall require a full and complete address of the track or other place desired to be licensed, the name and address of the licensee, and the name and address of the promoter of such race or exhibition and shall contain such further information as the Safety Fire Commissioner may require in order to comply with Code Section 43-25-4. Such application shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of \$100.00 \$150.00."

2479 **SECTION 1-84.** 

2480 Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public officers and employees,

2481 is further amended by revising Code Section 45-9-76, relating to the Georgia Public School

2482 Personnel Indemnification Fund, as follows:

- 2483 "45-9-76.
- 2484 The Georgia Public School Personnel Indemnification Fund shall consist of revenues
- derived from the sale of special and distinctive motor vehicle license plates honoring
- Georgia educators <u>issued prior to June 30, 2010</u> as provided by <u>paragraph (7) of subsection</u>
- 2487 (1) of Code Section 40-2-86.5 40-2-86. In addition, the Department of Administrative
- Services is authorized to accept for deposit in the Georgia Public School Personnel
- Indemnification Fund any other funds from any other source. All revenue or other funds
- received by the Georgia Public School Personnel Indemnification Fund shall not lapse."
- **SECTION 1-84.1.**
- 2492 Said title is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:
- 2493 "45-12-92.1.
- 2494 (a) The General Assembly finds and determines that certain fees imposed or authorized
- by law are not 'revenue measures' within the meaning of Article VII, Section III, Paragraph
- 2496 II of the Constitution but only incidentally create revenue pursuant to the facilitation of
- 2497 <u>another primary purpose.</u>
- 2498 (b) When any other provision of law imposes or authorizes the imposition of a fee and
- recites that such fee is subject to this Code section:
- 2500 (1) The agency or other entity imposing and collecting the fee shall not pay the proceeds
- of the fee into the general fund of the state treasury but shall rather retain and expend the
- 2502 proceeds for purposes of defraying the costs of administering the program or activity with
- which the fee is associated; and
- 2504 (2) If the amount of the fee is fixed by the agency or other entity pursuant to the law
- 2505 <u>authorizing the fee, the fee shall be fixed in a reasonable amount such that the proceeds</u>
- of the fee do not exceed the total direct and indirect costs of administering the program
- or activity with which the fee is associated."

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2508	SECTION 1-85.
2509	Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to public utilities and public
2510	transportation, is amended by revising Code Section 46-5-70, relating to filing of articles
2511	with the clerk of court, as follows:
2512	"46-5-70.
2513	The applicants shall file the application, including the articles of incorporation and the
2514	order of the judge thereon, in the office of the clerk of the superior court of the county in
2515	which the principal office of the cooperative is to be located, and shall concurrently
2516	therewith deposit with and pay to said clerk the fee provided for in Code Section 46-5-100."
2517	SECTION 1-86.
2518	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 46-5-73, relating to duty of clerk to
2519	deliver to applicants certified copies of articles and of judge's order thereon, as follows:
2520	"46-5-73.
2521	Upon the filing of the articles of incorporation and the order of the judge thereon with the
2522	clerk of the superior court and the fee being paid as required by Code Section 46-5-70, the
2523	clerk shall forthwith deliver to the applicants or their attorney two certified copies of the
2524	articles of incorporation and the order of the judge thereon, and the filing of the clerk
2525	thereon and receipt for the cost which has been paid to the clerk."
2526	SECTION 1-87.
2527	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 46-5-100, relating to fees for rural
2528	telephone cooperatives, as follows:
2529	"46-5-100.
2530	(a) Each cooperative shall be charged by the clerk of the superior court the fee as provided
2531	in subsection (g) of Code Section 15-6-77 for the filing of incorporation proceedings.
2532	(b) Each cooperative shall be charged by the Secretary of State the fees specified in Code
2533	Section 14-2-122 for the filing of documents and issuance of certificates."
2534	SECTION 1-88.
2535	Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is
2536	amended by revising Code Section 48-17-1, relating to definitions regarding coin operated
2537	amusement machines, by adding two new paragraphs to read as follows:
2538	"(2.2) 'Class A machine' means a bona fide coin operated amusement machine that is not
2539	a Class B machine and provides no reward to a successful player.

(2.3) 'Class B machine' means a bona fide coin operated amusement machine that

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2541 rewards a successful player with any combination of items listed in subparagraphs (B) 2542 and (C) of paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Code Section 16-12-35." 2543 SECTION 1-89. 2544 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 48-17-2, relating to 2545 license fees for coin operated amusement machines, as follows: 2546 "48-17-2. 2547 (a) Every owner, except an owner holding a bona fide coin operated amusement machine 2548 solely for personal use or resale, who offers others the opportunity to play for a charge, 2549 whether directly or indirectly, any bona fide coin operated amusement machine shall pay 2550 annual master license fees as follows: 2551 (1) Level one license. For Class A machines: 2552 (A) For five or fewer machines, the owner shall pay a master license fee of \$250.00 2553 \$500.00. 2554 (B) In the event such owner acquires a sixth or greater number of machines during 2555 a calendar year which require a certificate for lawful operation under this chapter so 2556 that the total number of machines owned does not exceed 60 machines or more, such owner shall pay an additional master license fee of \$1,250.00 \$2,000.00; 2557 2558 (2) Level two license. (A) For six or more machines but not more than 60 machines, 2559 the owner shall pay a master license fee of \$1,500.00. 2560 (B) For six or more machines but not more than 60 machines, the owner shall pay a master license fee of \$2,500.00. In the event such owner acquires a sixty-first or 2561 2562 greater number of machines during a calendar year which require a certificate for lawful 2563 operation under this chapter, such owner shall pay an additional master license fee of \$1,000.00 \$2,500.00; or 2564 2565 (3)(C) Level three license. For 61 or more machines, the owner shall pay a master 2566 license fee of \$2,500.00 \$5,000.00; and 2567 (2) For Class B machines: (A) For five or fewer machines, the owner shall pay a master license fee of \$1,000.00. 2568 2569 In the event such owner acquires a sixth or greater number of machines during a 2570 calendar year which require a certificate for lawful operation under this chapter so that 2571 the total number of machines owned does not exceed 60 machines or more, such owner 2572 shall pay an additional master license fee of \$2,000.00; 2573 (B) For six or more machines but not more than 60 machines, the owner shall pay a 2574 master license fee of \$3,000.00. In the event such owner acquires a sixty-first or 2575 greater number of machines during a calendar year which require a certificate for lawful

operation under this chapter, such owner shall pay an additional master license fee of \$2,000.00; or

(C) For 61 or more machines, the owner shall pay a master license fee of \$5,000.00. The cost of the license shall be paid to the commissioner by company check, cash, cashier's check, or money order. Upon said payment, the commissioner shall issue a master license certificate to the owner. The master license fee levied by this chapter Code section shall be collected by the commissioner on an annual basis, provided that an owner may purchase a six-month master license during the calendar year for \$175.00 for a level one license, \$1,050.00 for a level two license, or \$1,750.00 for a level three license for the period from July 1 to June 30. The commissioner may establish procedures for master license collection and set due dates for these license payments. No refund or credit of the master license charge levied by this chapter Code section may be allowed to any owner who ceases the operation of bona fide coin operated amusement machines prior to the end of any calendar year license or permit period."

**SECTION 1-90.** 

Said title is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (d) and by adding a new subsection in Code Section 48-17-9, relating to payment and collection of the annual permit fee, as follows:

"(a) Every owner, except an owner holding a coin operated <u>amusement</u> machine solely for personal use or resale, who offers others the opportunity to play for a charge, whether direct or indirect, any bona fide coin operated amusement machine shall pay a uniform an annual permit fee of \$25.00 per for each bona fide coin operated amusement machine in the amount of \$75.00 for each Class A machine and \$150.00 for each Class B machine. The fee shall be paid to the commissioner by company check, cash, cashier's check, or money order. Upon payment, the commissioner shall issue a sticker for each \$25.00 payment for each bona fide coin operated <u>amusement</u> machine. The annual fees levied by this chapter will shall be collected by the commissioner on an annual basis for the period <u>July 1 to June 30</u>. The commissioner may establish procedures for annual collection and set due dates for the fee payments. No refund or credit of the annual fee levied by this chapter shall be allowed to any owner who ceases the exhibition or display of any bona fide coin operated amusement machine prior to the end of any calendar year."

"(d) The commissioner may provide a duplicate permit sticker if a valid permit sticker has been lost, stolen, or destroyed. The fee for a duplicate permit sticker shall be \$10.00 \$50.00. If a permit sticker is lost, stolen, or destroyed, a sworn, written statement must be submitted explaining the circumstances by which the permit sticker was lost, stolen, or destroyed and including the number of the lost, stolen, or destroyed permit before a

2612	replacement permit can be issued. A permit for which a duplicate permit sticker has been
2613	issued is void.
2614	(e) Each permit sticker issued for a bona fide coin operated amusement machine which
2615	rewards a winning player exclusively with free replays, noncash redemption merchandise,
2616	prizes, toys, gift certificates, or novelties; or points, tokens, tickets, or other evidence of
2617	winnings that may be exchanged for free replays or noncash redemption merchandise,
2618	prizes, toys, gift certificates, or novelties, in accordance with the provisions of subsections
2619	(b) through (d) of Code Section 16-12-35 shall include the following: 'GEORGIA LAW
2620	PROHIBITS THE PAYMENT OR RECEIPT OF ANY MONEY FOR REPLAYS OR
2621	MERCHANDISE AWARDED FOR PLAYING THIS MACHINE. O.C.G.A. SECTION
2622	<u>16-12-35."</u>
2623	SECTION 1-91.
2624	Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 48-17-11, relating to permit fees for
2625	additional coin operated machines, as follows:
2626	"48-17-11.
2627	If an owner purchases or receives additional bona fide coin operated amusement machines
2628	during the calendar year, the \$25.00 applicable permit fee shall be paid to the
2629	commissioner and the sticker shall be affixed to the machine or placed at the location
2630	where the machine is located before the machine may be legally operated. A penalty fee
2631	of \$50.00 for each bona fide coin operated amusement machine in the amount of \$1,000.00
2632	for each Class A machine and \$5,000.00 for each Class B machine shall be assessed by the
2633	commissioner for every machine in operation being illegally operated with or without a
2634	permit sticker."
2635	SECTION 1-92.
2636	Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government, is amended
2637	by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 50-7-70, relating to agricultural tourist attractions,
2638	as follows:
2639	"(d) Entities wishing to be recognized by the department as an agricultural tourist attraction

shall submit an application to the department with a one-time application fee of up to 2640 \$250.00 not less than \$300.00." 2641

2642	PART II
2643	SECTION 2-1.
2644	Chapter 8 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the care and
2645	protection of indigent and elderly patients, is amended by adding a new article to read as
2646	follows:
2647	"ARTICLE 6C
2648	<u>31-8-179.</u>
2649	This article is enacted pursuant to the authority of Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI(i)
2650	of the Constitution and shall be known and may be cited as the 'Provider Payment
2651	Agreement Act.'
2652	<u>31-8-179.1.</u>
2653	As used in this article, the term:
2654	(1) Reserved.
2655	(2) 'Hospital' means an institution licensed pursuant to Chapter 7 of this title which is
2656	primarily engaged in providing to inpatients, by or under the supervision of physicians,
2657	diagnostic services and therapeutic services for medical diagnosis, treatment, and care of
2658	injured, disabled, or sick persons or rehabilitation services for the rehabilitation of
2659	injured, disabled, or sick persons. Such term includes public, private, rehabilitative,
2660	geriatric, osteopathic, and other specialty hospitals but shall not include psychiatric
2661	hospitals as defined in paragraph (7) of Code Section 37-3-1, critical access hospitals as
2662	defined in paragraph (3) of Code Section 33-21A-2, or any state owned or state operated
2663	hospitals.
2664	(3) 'Net patient revenue' means the total gross patient revenue of a hospital less
2665	contractual adjustments; charity care; bad debt; Hill-Burton commitments; and indigent
2666	care as defined by and calculated in the department's annual hospital financial survey.
2667	(4) 'Provider payment' means the payment imposed pursuant to this article for the
2668	privilege of operating a hospital.
2669	(5) 'Segregated account' means an account for the dedication and deposit of provider
2670	payments which is established within the Indigent Care Trust Fund created pursuant to
2671	Code Section 31-8-152.
2672	(6) 'Trust fund' means the Indigent Care Trust Fund created pursuant to Code Section
2673	<u>31-8-152.</u>

- 2674 <u>31-8-179.2.</u>
- 2675 There is established within the trust fund a segregated account for revenues raised through
- 2676 the imposition of the provider payment. All revenues raised through provider payments
- 2677 <u>from hospitals shall be credited to the segregated account within the trust fund. All funds</u>
- 2678 <u>shall be invested in the same manner as authorized for investing other moneys in the state</u>
- treasury. Contributions and transfers to the trust fund pursuant to Code Sections 31-8-153
- and 31-8-153.1 shall not be deposited into the segregated account.
- 2681 31-8-179.3.
- 2682 (a) Each hospital shall be assessed a provider payment in the amount of 1.45 percent of the
- 2683 <u>net patient revenue of the hospital; provided, however, that the Department of Community</u>
- Health may lower the provider payment percentage for a subclass of hospitals, if necessary,
- 2685 to comply with the broad-based and uniform tests pursuant to 42 C.F.R. Section 433.68.
- 2686 (b) The provider payment shall be paid quarterly by each hospital to the department. The
- 2687 <u>assessment shall be based on the department's annual hospital financial survey. Payment</u>
- 2688 of the provider payment shall be due at end of each calendar quarter; the first payment shall
- be due on September 30.
- 2690 (c) The provider payment imposed under this article shall be recognized by the department
- 2691 as a form of expenditure for indigent or charity care under any agreement by a hospital to
- provide a specified amount of clinical health services to indigent patients pursuant to
- subsection (c) of Code Section 31-6-40.1 and may be considered a community benefit for
- 2694 purposes of any required or voluntary community benefit report filed or prepared by a
- 2695 hospital; provided, however, that the provider payment shall not be considered charity or
- 2696 indigent care for purposes of calculating net patient revenue pursuant to this article.
- 2697 31-8-179.4.
- 2698 (a) The department shall collect the provider payments imposed pursuant to Code Section
- 2699 31-8-179.3. All revenues raised pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the
- 2700 segregated account. Such funds shall be dedicated and used for the sole purpose of
- 2701 <u>obtaining federal financial participation for medical assistance payments to providers on</u>
- behalf of Medicaid recipients pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49.
- 2703 (b) The department shall prepare and distribute a form upon which each hospital shall
- submit information to comply with this article.
- 2705 (c) Each hospital shall keep and preserve for a period of three years such books and
- 2706 records as may be necessary to determine the amount for which it is liable under this
- article. The department shall have the authority to inspect and copy the records of a
- 2708 hospital for purposes of auditing the calculation of the provider payment. All information

obtained by the department pursuant to this article shall be confidential and shall not

- 2710 <u>constitute a public record.</u>
- (d) In the event the department determines that a hospital has underpaid or overpaid the
- provider payment, the department shall notify the hospital of the balance of the provider
- payment or refund that is due. Such payment or refund shall be due within 30 days of the
- department's notice.
- 2715 (e) Any hospital that fails to pay the provider payment pursuant to this article within the
- 2716 <u>time required by this article shall pay, in addition to the outstanding provider payment, a</u>
- 2717 6 percent penalty for each month or fraction thereof that the payment is overdue. If a
- 2718 provider payment has not been received by the department by the last day of the month, the
- 2719 <u>department shall withhold an amount equal to the provider payment and penalty owed from</u>
- 2720 any medical assistance payment due such hospital under the Medicaid program. The
- 2721 provider payment levied by this article shall constitute a debt due the state and may be
- 2722 <u>collected by civil action and the filing of tax liens in addition to such methods provided for</u>
- in this article. Any penalty that accrues pursuant to this subsection shall be credited to the
- 2724 <u>segregated account.</u>
- 2725 <u>31-8-179.5.</u>
- 2726 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the General Assembly is
- 2727 <u>authorized to appropriate as state funds to the department for use in any fiscal year all</u>
- 2728 revenues dedicated and deposited into the segregated account. Such appropriations shall
- be authorized to be made for the sole purpose of obtaining federal financial participation
- for medical assistance payments to providers on behalf of Medicaid recipients pursuant to
- 2731 Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title 49. Any appropriation from the segregated account for any
- purpose other than such medical assistance payments shall be void.
- 2733 (b) Revenues appropriated to the department pursuant to this Code section shall be used
- 2734 to match federal funds that are available for the purpose for which such trust funds have
- been appropriated.
- 2736 (c) Appropriations from the segregated account to the department shall not lapse to the
- 2737 general fund at the end of the fiscal year.
- 2738 31-8-179.6.
- 2739 The department shall report annually to the General Assembly on its use of revenues
- 2740 <u>deposited into the segregated account and appropriated to the department pursuant to this</u>
- article.

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2742	<u>31-8-179.7.</u>
2743	Except where inconsistent with this article, the provisions of Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Title
2744	49, the 'Georgia Medical Assistance Act of 1977,' shall apply to the department in carrying
2745	out the purposes of this article.
2746	31-8-179.8.
2747	This article shall stand repealed on June 30, 2013."
2748	PART III
2749	SECTION 3-1.
2750	Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is
2751	amended by revising Code Section 48-5-8, relating to the manner and time of making the
2752	state ad valorem tax levy, as follows:
2753	"48-5-8.
2754	(a) Subject to the conditions specified in subsection (b) of this Code section, the The levy
2755	for state taxation shall be made by the Governor with the assistance of the commissioner.
2756	Each year, as soon as the value of the taxable property is substantially known by the
2757	commissioner, the commissioner shall assist the Governor in making the state levy.
2758	Immediately after the Governor has made the state levy, the commissioner shall send to
2759	each tax collector and tax commissioner written or printed notices of the Governor's order.
2760	(b)(1) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, and prior to January 1,
2761	2012, the levy under subsection (a) of this Code Section shall be 0.25 mills.
2762	(2) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, and prior to January 1, 2013,
2763	the levy under subsection (a) of this Code Section shall be 0.2 mills.
2764	(3) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and prior to January 1, 2014,
2765	the levy under subsection (a) of this Code Section shall be 0.15 mills.
2766	(4) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, and prior to January 1, 2015,
2767	the levy under subsection (a) of this Code Section shall be 0.1 mills.
2768	(5) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and prior to January 1, 2016,
2769	the levy under subsection (a) of this Code Section shall be 0.05 mills.
2770	(6)(A) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2016, there shall be no levy
2771	for state taxation under subsection (a) of this Code section.
2772	(B) Tax, penalty, and interest liabilities and refund eligibility for prior taxable years
2773	shall not be affected by this subsection and shall continue to be governed by the

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this subsection.

provisions of this Code section as it existed immediately prior to the effective date of

2776 (C) This subsection shall not abate any prosecution, punishment, penalty, 2777 administrative proceedings or remedies, or civil action related to any violation of law 2778 committed prior to the effective date of this subsection. 2779 (c) Each fiscal authority issuing an ad valorem property tax bill shall place a prominent 2780 notice on each taxpayer's ad valorem tax bill in substantially the following form: 2781 'This gradual reduction and elimination of the state property tax and the reduction in your 2782 tax bill this year is the result of property tax relief passed by the Governor and the House 2783 of Representatives and the Georgia State Senate." 2784 **PART IV** 2785 **SECTION 4-1.** 2786 Said Title 48 is further amended by revising subparagraphs (a)(5)(A) through (a)(5)(F) of 2787 Code Section 48-7-27, relating to computation of taxable net income, as follows: 2788 "(5)(A) Retirement income otherwise included in Georgia taxable net income not to 2789 exceed the shall be subject an exclusion amount as follows: 2790 (i) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1989, and prior to January 1, 2791 1990, retirement income not to exceed an exclusion amount of \$8,000.00 per year 2792 received from any source; 2793 (ii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1990, and prior to January 1, 2794 1994, retirement income not to exceed an exclusion amount of \$10,000.00 per year 2795 received from any source; (iii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1994, and prior to January 1, 2796 2797 1995, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of 2798 \$11,000.00; 2799 (iv) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1995, and prior to January 1, 2800 1999, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of 2801 \$12,000.00; 2802 (v) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1999, and prior to January 1, 2803 2000, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of 2804 \$13,000.00; 2805 (vi) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2000, and prior to January 1, 2806 2001, retirement income not to exceed an exclusion amount of \$13,500.00 per year 2807 received from any source; 2808 (vii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, and prior to January 1, 2809 2002, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of 2810 \$14,000.00;

2811	(viii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2002, and prior to January 1,
2812	2003, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2813	\$14,500.00;
2814	(ix) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2003, and prior to January 1,
2815	2006, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2816	\$15,000.00;
2817	(x) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2006, and prior to January 1,
2818	2007, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2819	\$25,000.00;
2820	(xi) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007, and prior to January 1,
2821	2008, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2822	\$30,000.00; and
2823	(xii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, and prior to January 1,
2824	2012, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2825	\$35,000.00;
2826	(xiii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, and prior to January 1,
2827	2013, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2828	\$35,000.00 for each taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division
2829	(i) or (ii) of subparagraph (D) of this paragraph or an amount of \$65,000.00 for each
2830	taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (iii) of subparagraph
2831	(D) of this paragraph;
2832	(xiv) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and prior to January 1,
2833	2014, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2834	\$35,000.00 for each taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division
2835	(i) or (ii) of subparagraph (D) of this paragraph or an amount of \$100,000.00 for each
2836	taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (iii) of subparagraph
2837	(D) of this paragraph;
2838	(xv) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, and prior to January 1,
2839	2015, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2840	\$35,000.00 for each taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division
2841	(i) or (ii) of subparagraph (D) of this paragraph or an amount of \$150,000.00 for each
2842	taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (iii) of subparagraph
2843	(D) of this paragraph;
2844	(xvi) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, and prior to January 1,
2845	2016, retirement income from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of
2846	\$35,000.00 for each taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division
2847	(i) or (ii) of subparagraph (D) of this paragraph or an amount of \$200,000.00 for each

2848 taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (iii) of subparagraph 2849 (D) of this paragraph; and 2850 (xvii) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2016, retirement income 2851 from any source not to exceed an exclusion amount of \$35,000.00 for each taxpayer 2852 meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (D) 2853 of this paragraph or an exclusion of all retirement income from any source for each 2854 taxpayer meeting the eligibility requirement set forth in division (iii) of subparagraph 2855 (D) of this paragraph. (B) In the case of a married couple filing jointly, each spouse shall if otherwise 2856 2857 qualified be individually entitled to exclude retirement income received by that spouse 2858 up to the exclusion amount, so that the total amount excluded on such joint return may 2859 if otherwise allowable be up to twice the individual exclusion amount. 2860 (C) The exclusion exclusions provided for in this paragraph shall not apply to or affect 2861 and shall be in addition to those adjustments to net income provided for under any other 2862 paragraph of this subsection. 2863 (D) A taxpayer shall be eligible for the exclusion exclusions granted by this paragraph 2864 only if the taxpayer: 2865 (i) Is 62 years of age or older but less than 65 years of age during any part of the 2866 taxable year; or (ii) Is permanently and totally disabled in that the taxpayer has a medically 2867 2868 demonstrable disability which is permanent and which renders the taxpayer incapable 2869 of performing any gainful occupation within the taxpayer's competence; or (iii) Is 65 years of age or older during any part of the year. 2870 2871 (E) For the purposes of this paragraph, retirement income shall include but not be 2872 limited to interest income, dividend income, net income from rental property, capital gains income, income from royalties, income from pensions and annuities, and no more 2873 2874 than \$4,000.00 of an individual's earned income. Earned income in excess of 2875 \$4,000.00, including but not limited to net business income earned by an individual from any trade or business carried on by such individual, wages, salaries, tips, and other 2876 2877 employer compensation, shall not be regarded as retirement income. The receipt of 2878 earned income shall not diminish any taxpayer's eligibility for the retirement income 2879 exclusion exclusions allowed by this paragraph except to the extent of the express 2880 limitation provided in this subparagraph.

(F) The commissioner shall by regulation require proof of the eligibility of the taxpayer for the exclusions allowed by this paragraph."

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2883	PART V
2884	SECTION 5-1.
2885	(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, this Act shall become
2886	effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval
2887	(b) Part II of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2010.
2888	SECTION 5-2.
2889	All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.