AS PASSED SENATE

SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB 175

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, 2 relating to prestige license plates and special plates for certain persons and vehicles, so as to 3 provide for the design and issuance of a distinctive license plate for state constitutional 4 officers and members of the Public Service Commission; to provide a definition; to provide 5 for the design of special license plates issued to retired members of the active reserve 6 components and the Georgia National Guard; to establish a specialty license plate honoring 7 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; to establish a specialty license plate honoring Alpha Phi 8 Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; to amend Code Section 48-5-478 of the Official Code of Georgia 9 Annotated, relating to constitutional exemption from motor vehicle ad valorem taxation for 10 disabled veterans, so as to remove a requirement that a motor vehicle display a certain license plate in order to qualify for an exemption from ad valorem taxation; to limit applicability of 11 12 such exemption to a single vehicle; to provide for clarification that such exemption applies 13 to alternative title ad valorem taxes; to authorize the adoption of rules and regulations; to 14 provide for related matters; to provide for compliance with constitutional requirements; to 15 provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

- 16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:
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HB 175/SCSFA

SECTION 1.

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

24 "40-2-61.

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

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44	SECTION 2.
45	Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-65, relating to special license plates for
46	members of active reserve components of the United States, by adding a new paragraph to
47	subsection (a) to read as follows:
48	"(3) The license plates issued pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection shall contain
49	the word 'RETIRED' in the location of and in lieu of the name of the county of issuance."
50	SECTION 3.
51	Said article is further amended in Code Section 40-2-66, relating to special license plates for
52	members of Georgia National Guard, by adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) to read as
53	follows:
54	"(3) The license plates issued pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection shall contain
55	the word 'RETIRED' in the location of and in lieu of the name of the county of issuance."

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SECTION 4.

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

61 "(69) A special license plate to support members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

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

63 <u>Southeastern Education & Leadership Foundation (SELF).</u>

64 (70) A special license plate honoring Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The funds raised

65 by the sale of this special license plate shall be disbursed to the Alpha Georgia Education

66 <u>Foundation, Inc.</u>"

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67 **SECTION 5.** 68 Code Section 48-5-478 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to constitutional 69 exemption from motor vehicle ad valorem taxation for disabled veterans, is amended by 70 revising subsection (a) as follows: 71 "(a) A motor vehicle owned by or leased to a disabled veteran who is a citizen and resident 72 of this state and on which such disabled veteran actually places the free disabled veteran 73 motor vehicle license plate he or she receives pursuant to Code Section 40-2-69 is hereby 74 exempted from all ad valorem taxes for state, county, municipal, and school purposes, including any alternative title ad valorem tax assessed pursuant to Code Section 48-5C-1. 75 76 Such exemption shall be applicable to a single motor vehicle owned by or leased to a 77 disabled veteran. As used in this Code section, the term 'disabled veteran' shall have the 78 same meaning as that term is defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code 79 Section 48-5-48. The department may issue such rules and regulations as are necessary to implement this subsection." 80

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SECTION 6.

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

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SECTION 7.

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

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SECTION 8.

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