

House Bill 1011 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Hogan of the 179th, Jones of the 47th, Mathiak of the 73rd, Bonner of the 72nd, Williams of the 145th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 equipment and inspection of motor vehicles, so as to exempt low-speed vehicles from
3 permitting requirements relating to amber strobe lights or emergency vehicle designation;
4 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to equipment and
8 inspection of motor vehicles, is amended by revising Code Section 40-8-35, relating to
9 operating low-speed vehicles on highway and issuance of permit, as follows:

10 "40-8-35.

11 (a) Any low-speed vehicle operated on the highways of this state without a properly
12 affixed emblem conforming to the requirements of Code Section 40-8-4 shall display an
13 amber strobe light so as to warn approaching travelers to decrease their speed because of
14 the danger of colliding with such vehicle. Such amber strobe light shall be mounted in a
15 manner so as to be visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet
16 from the front and rear of such vehicle.

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

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 40-8-92, relating to designation
21 of emergency vehicles, flashing or revolving lights, permits, fee, and prohibition against use
22 of flashing or revolving green lights by private persons on public property, as follows:

23 "40-8-92.

24 (a) All emergency vehicles shall be designated as such by the commissioner of public
25 safety. The commissioner shall so designate each vehicle by issuing to such vehicle a
26 permit to operate flashing or revolving emergency lights of the appropriate color. Such
27 permit shall be valid for ~~one year from the date of issuance; provided, however, that~~
28 ~~permits for vehicles belonging to federal, state, county, or municipal governmental~~
29 ~~agencies shall be valid for five years from the date of issuance.~~ Any and all officially
30 marked law enforcement vehicles as specified in Code Section 40-8-91 shall not be
31 required to have a permit for the use of a blue light. Any and all fire department vehicles
32 which are distinctly marked on each side shall not be required to have a permit for the use
33 of a red light. Any and all ambulances, as defined in Code Section 31-11-2, licensed by
34 this state shall not be required to have a permit for the use of a red light. Any low-speed
35 vehicle shall not be required to have a permit for the use of an amber strobe light.

36 (b) The commissioner shall authorize the use of red or amber flashing or revolving lights
37 only when the person or governmental agency shall demonstrate to the commissioner a
38 proven need for equipping a vehicle with emergency lights. The fee for such lights shall
39 be \$2.00, provided that no federal, state, county, or municipal governmental agency or an
40 ambulance provider, as defined in Code Section 31-11-2, shall be required to pay such fee.

41 (c) Nothing contained in this Code section shall prohibit the commissioner from issuing
42 a single special use permit to cover more than one vehicle, provided each vehicle covered

43 under such special use permit shall pay the fee specified in subsection (b) of this Code
44 section.

45 (d) Except as provided in this subsection, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or
46 corporation to operate any motor vehicle or to park any motor vehicle on public property
47 with flashing or revolving green lights. This subsection shall not apply to any motor
48 vehicle being used by any law enforcement agency, fire department, emergency
49 management agency, or other governmental entity to designate the location of the
50 command post for such agency, department, or entity at the site of an emergency."

51 **SECTION 3.**

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