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## House Bill 301 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Ridley of the 6<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Collins of the 71<sup>st</sup>, Rhodes of the 124<sup>th</sup>, Burchett of the 176<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- 1 To amend Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles and
- 2 traffic, so as to restrict other additional fines, fees, penalties, or charges upon civil monetary
- 3 penalties issued for violations of improperly passing a school bus and speeding in a school
- 4 zone when captured by cameras; to provide for inclusion of civil monetary penalties issued
- 5 by automated traffic enforcement devices in the permissible ratio of speeding fines for a law
- 6 enforcement agency's budget; to provide for the assessment of penalty for violations of
- 7 provisions relating to automated traffic enforcement devices by an agent, law enforcement
- 8 agency, or governing body; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

- 11 Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to motor vehicles and traffic, is
- amended in Code Section 40-6-163 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
- duty of driver of vehicle meeting or overtaking school bus, reporting of violations, and civil
- 14 monetary penalty for violations captured by school bus camera, by revising
- 15 subparagraph (d)(3)(A) as follows:

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"(A) The owner of a motor vehicle shall be liable for a civil monetary penalty to the governing body of the law enforcement agency provided for in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph if such vehicle is found, as evidenced by recorded images, to have been operated in disregard or disobedience of subsection (a) of this Code section and such disregard or disobedience was not otherwise authorized by law. The amount of such civil monetary penalty shall be \$250.00, and no other additional fines, fees, penalties, or charges shall be authorized;"

23 SECTION 2.

Said title is further amended in Code Section 40-14-11, relating to investigations by commissioner of public safety, issuance of order suspending or revoking permit, and ratio of speeding fines to agency's budget, by revising subsection (d) as follows:

"(d) There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a law enforcement agency is employing speed detection devices for purposes other than the promotion of the public health, welfare, and safety if the fines levied based on the use of speed detection devices for speeding offenses are equal to or greater than 35 percent of a municipal or county law enforcement agency's budget. For purposes of this Code section, fines collected for citations issued for violations of Code Section 40-6-180 and moneys collected for civil monetary penalties pursuant to Code Section 40-14-18 shall be included when calculating total speeding fine revenue for the agency; provided, however, that fines for speeding violations exceeding 20 miles per hour over the established speed limit and civil monetary penalties for speeding violations issued pursuant to Code Section 40-14-18 shall not be considered when calculating total speeding fine revenue for the agency."

38 SECTION 3.

39 Said title is further amended in Code Section 40-14-18, relating to enforcement of speed limit 40 in school zones with recorded images, civil monetary penalty, and vehicle registration and 23 LC 39 3789S

transfer of title restrictions for failure to pay penalty, by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (b) and adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(1) The owner of a motor vehicle shall be liable for a civil monetary penalty to the governing body of the law enforcement agency provided for in paragraph (2) of this subsection if such vehicle is found, as evidenced by photographically recorded images, to have been operated in disregard or disobedience of the speed limit within any school zone and such disregard or disobedience was not otherwise authorized by law. The amount of such civil monetary penalty shall be \$75.00 for a first violation and \$125.00 for a second or any subsequent violation, in addition to fees associated with the electronic processing of such civil monetary penalty which shall not exceed a total of \$25.00, and no other additional fines, fees, penalties, or charges shall be authorized; provided, however, that for a period of 30 days after the first automated traffic enforcement safety device is introduced by a law enforcement agency within a school zone, the driver of a motor vehicle shall not be liable for a civil monetary penalty but shall be issued a civil warning for disregard or disobedience of the speed limit within the school zone;"

"(n) Any agent, law enforcement agency, or governing body that violates any provision of this article relating to automated traffic enforcement safety devices shall be assessed a fine of \$1,000.00 by the commissioner of public safety."

**SECTION 4.** 

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