

House Bill 121

By: Representatives Marin of the 96<sup>th</sup>, Waites of the 60<sup>th</sup>, Brooks of the 55<sup>th</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, and Bell of the 58<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions relative to motor vehicles and traffic, so as to require policies that prohibit  
3 law enforcement officers from impermissibly using race or ethnicity in determining whether  
4 to stop a motorist; to require annual training of law enforcement officers on impermissible  
5 uses of race and ethnicity in stopping vehicles; to require law enforcement officers to  
6 document the race, ethnicity, and gender of a motorist and passengers; to provide for other  
7 matters relative thereto; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

10 Chapter 1 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
11 provisions relative to motor vehicles and traffic, is amended by adding a new Code section  
12 to read as follows:

13 "40-1-9.

14 (a) Law enforcement officers shall not use a person's race or ethnicity to form probable  
15 cause or reasonable suspicion to stop a vehicle but may use a person's race or ethnicity to  
16 confirm a previously obtained description of a suspect.

17 (b)(1) Each state and local law enforcement agency shall adopt a policy and implement  
18 an annual training program regarding racial profiling that provides and instructs that a  
19 law enforcement officer shall not use a person's race or ethnicity to form probable cause  
20 or reasonable suspicion to stop a vehicle but may use a person's race or ethnicity to  
21 confirm a previously obtained description of a suspect.

22 (2) Except in instances where a vehicle is stopped in a fixed road block, each time a state  
23 or local law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle to issue a citation or to make an  
24 arrest, that officer shall document the following information in a public record whose  
25 format shall be determined by the Department of Driver Services:

26 (A) The gender of the driver;

- 27 (B) The race or ethnicity of the driver;  
 28 (C) The suspected violation that led to the stop;  
 29 (D) Whether the vehicle, personal effects, driver, or any passenger was searched and,  
 30 if any passenger or his or her effects were searched, the passenger's gender and the  
 31 passenger's race or ethnicity;  
 32 (E) Whether a search was conducted pursuant to consent, probable cause, or reasonable  
 33 suspicion to suspect a crime, including the approximate duration of the search and the  
 34 basis for the request for consent or the circumstances establishing probable cause or  
 35 reasonable suspicion;  
 36 (F) Whether contraband was found, the type and approximate amount of contraband,  
 37 and whether contraband was seized;  
 38 (G) Whether any arrest, citation, or any oral or written warning was issued as a result  
 39 of the stop;  
 40 (H) Whether the officer making the stop encountered any physical resistance, whether  
 41 the officer engaged in the use of force, and whether injuries resulted;  
 42 (I) Whether the circumstances surrounding the stop were the subject of any  
 43 investigation and the results of that investigation; and  
 44 (J) The location of the stop.
- 45 (3) If a law enforcement officer stops a motor vehicle and no citation or written warning  
 46 is issued to the motorist, then the officer shall provide the motorist with a card showing  
 47 the officer's name, badge number, and the name of the officer's law enforcement agency.
- 48 (4) Law enforcement agencies shall maintain the data required to be collected under  
 49 paragraph (2) of this subsection for not less than seven years.
- 50 (5) As part of its personnel review or evaluation procedures provisions, each law  
 51 enforcement agency shall include complaints filed and other information designed to  
 52 evaluate whether or not each law enforcement officer employed by such agency is  
 53 complying with the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection. Any officer found not  
 54 to be complying with the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection shall be required  
 55 to undergo further training that meets the requirements of paragraph (1) of this  
 56 subsection.
- 57 (6) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to alter the requirements for  
 58 determining probable cause or reasonable suspicion under the Constitution of the United  
 59 States or the Constitution of the State of Georgia."

60 **SECTION 2.**

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