

The House Committee on Motor Vehicles offers the following substitute to HB 870:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 4 of Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to horns, exhaust systems, mirrors, windshields, tires, safety belts, and
3 energy absorption systems, so as to prohibit the installation of tires upon passenger vehicles
4 which do not meet certain standards; to provide for applicability; to provide for a definition;
5 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 4 of Article 1 of Chapter 8 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to horns, exhaust systems, mirrors, windshields, tires, safety belts, and energy
10 absorption systems, is amended by revising Code Section 40-8-74, relating to tires, as
11 follows:

12 "40-8-74.

13 (a) No vehicle equipped with solid rubber tires shall be used or transported on the
14 highways, unless every solid rubber tire on such vehicle shall have rubber on its entire
15 traction surface at least one inch thick above the edge of the flange on the entire periphery.

16 (b) No person shall operate or move on any highway any motor vehicle, trailer, or
17 semitrailer having any metal tire in contact with the roadway.

18 (c) No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall have on its periphery any block, stud,
19 flange, cleat, or spike or any other protuberance of any material other than rubber which
20 projects beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire, except that it shall be
21 permissible to use:

22 (1) Farm machinery with tires having protuberances which will not injure the highway;
23 and

24 (2) Tire chains of reasonable proportions or tires equipped with safety metal spike studs
25 upon any vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions
26 tending to cause a vehicle to skid.

27 (d) The transportation board and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions may in
 28 their discretion issue special permits authorizing the operation upon a highway of traction
 29 engines or tractors having movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon the periphery
 30 of such movable tracks, or of farm tractors or other farm machinery, the operation of which
 31 upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this Code section.

32 (e) All tires:

33 (1) Shall have not less than 2/32 inch tread measurable in all major grooves except that
 34 school buses and commercial vehicles shall have not less than 4/32 inch tread measurable
 35 in all major grooves on the front tires and school buses shall have not less than 4/32 inch
 36 tread measurable in all major grooves on the rear tires when there are only two tires on
 37 the rear; such measurements shall not be made where tie bars, humps, or fillets are
 38 located;

39 (2) Shall be free from any cuts, breaks, or snags on tread and sidewall deep enough to
 40 expose body cord; and

41 (3) Shall be free from bumps, bulges, or separations.

42 (f) No motor vehicle shall be operated on a ~~public street~~ or highway with tires that have
 43 been marked 'not for highway use,' 'for racing purposes only,' or 'unsafe for highway use.'

44 (g) Retreaded, regrooved, or recapped tires shall not be used upon the front wheels of
 45 buses.

46 (h)(1) No person shall install a tire upon a passenger vehicle which:

47 (A) Does not meet the requirements set forth in subsection (e) of this Code section;

48 (B) Has damage that exposes the reinforcing piles of the tire;

49 (C) Has a repair of puncture damage larger than 1/4 inch;

50 (D) Has a repair in the tread shoulder, belt edge area, sidewall, or bead area of the tire;

51 (E) Has a puncture that has not been sealed or patched on the inside of the tire and has
 52 been repaired with a cured rubber stem through to the outside;

53 (F) Shows evidence of the use of a temporary tire sealant to repair a puncture or
 54 damage to the tire without evidence of subsequent repair which would allow the tire to
 55 comply with the requirements of this subsection;

56 (G) Has any inner liner damage or bead damage;

57 (H) Shows indication of belt separation or internal separation, such as bulges or local
 58 areas of irregular tread wear, indicating a distortion in the tread area when compared
 59 to other areas of the tread; or

60 (I) Has a defaced or removed United States Department of Transportation tire
 61 identification number.

62 (2) This subsection shall not apply to:

63 (A) A tire which has been temporarily removed from a passenger vehicle and
64 reinstalled on the same vehicle for purposes of vehicle repair or tire repair, balancing,
65 or rotation; or

66 (B) Any dealer when such person played no role in the placement of the tire upon the
67 vehicle.

68 (3) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'passenger vehicle' shall have the same
69 meaning as provided in Code Section 40-8-76.1."

70 **SECTION 3.**

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