

House Bill 1709

By: Representatives Channell of the 77th, Parrish of the 102nd, Shaw of the 143rd, Orrock of the 51st, and Parham of the 94th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to provide that nursing homes
3 annually offer an influenza virus vaccine to all medicare and Medicaid eligible patients and
4 private pay patients in their facilities; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
5 laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 regulation of hospitals and related institutions, is amended by striking subsection (a) of Code
10 Section 31-7-2.1, relating to rules and regulations, availability of reports of cited deficiencies,
11 and disclosure of survey worksheets and documents, and inserting in its place the following:

12 "(a) The department shall adopt and promulgate such reasonable rules and regulations
13 which in its judgment are necessary to protect the health and lives of patients and shall
14 prescribe and set out the kind and quality of building, equipment, facilities, and
15 institutional services which institutions shall have and use in order to properly care for their
16 patients. Such rules and regulations shall require that all nursing homes annually offer,
17 contingent on availability, an influenza virus vaccine to all medicare and Medicaid eligible
18 patients and private pay patients in their facilities, in accordance with the rules and
19 regulations established pursuant to this subsection."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.