

House Bill 878

By: Representatives Pak of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, Atwood of the 179<sup>th</sup>, Cooper of the 41<sup>st</sup>, and Watson of the 163<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 pharmacists and pharmacies, so as to authorize the use of remote order entry for hospital  
3 pharmacies under certain conditions; to provide for a definition; to provide for submission  
4 of policies and procedures to the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy; to provide for related  
5 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 4 of Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to pharmacists and  
9 pharmacies, is amended in Code Section 26-4-5, relating to definitions, by adding a new  
10 paragraph to read as follows:

11 "(37.2) 'Remote order entry' means the entry made by a pharmacist from a remote  
12 location indicating that the pharmacist has reviewed the patient specific drug order for  
13 a hospital patient, has approved or disapproved the administration of the drug for such  
14 patient, and has entered the information in the hospital's patient record system."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 26-4-80, relating to dispensing of  
17 prescription drugs, by revising paragraph (7) of subsection (c) as follows:

18 "(7)(A) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations which may provide specific  
19 exceptions under this Code section for institutional settings such as hospital  
20 pharmacies, nursing home pharmacies, clinic pharmacies, or pharmacies owned or  
21 operated directly by health maintenance organizations.

22 (B) The rules established pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall  
23 specifically authorize hospital pharmacies to use remote order entry when:

24 (i) The licensed pharmacist is not physically present in the hospital and the hospital  
25 pharmacy is closed; or

26 (ii) When at least one licensed pharmacist is physically present in the hospital  
27 pharmacy and at least one other licensed pharmacist is practicing pharmacy in the  
28 hospital but not physically present in the hospital pharmacy.  
29 Such rules shall require that written policies and procedures for the use of remote order  
30 entry shall be established and submitted by the hospital to the board prior to the use of  
31 remote order entry."

32 **SECTION 3.**

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