

ADOPTED

Senator Balfour of the 9th offered the following amendment:

1 *Amend Senate Health and Human Services Committee substitute to SB 346 by inserting after*
 2 *"carriers;" on line 4 the following:*

3 to amend Code Sections 26-4-5 and 26-4-80 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
 4 relating to definitions and dispensing of prescription drugs, respectively, so as to authorize
 5 the use of remote order entry for hospital pharmacies; to provide for submission of policies;

6 *By inserting between lines 84 and 85 the following:*

SECTION 1A.

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

10 "(37.2) 'Remote order entry' means the entry made by a pharmacist located within the
 11 State of Georgia from a remote location indicating that the pharmacist has reviewed the
 12 patient specific drug order for a hospital patient, has approved or disapproved the
 13 administration of the drug for such patient, and has entered the information in the
 14 hospital's patient record system."

SECTION 1B.

16 Code Section 26-4-80 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to dispensing of
 17 prescription drugs, is amended 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, the hospital
 25 pharmacy is closed, and a licensed pharmacist will be physically present in the
 26 hospital pharmacy within 16 hours; or

27 (ii) When at least one licensed pharmacist is physically present in the hospital
 28 pharmacy and at least one other licensed pharmacist is practicing pharmacy in the
 29 hospital but not physically present in the hospital pharmacy.

30 (C) Before a hospital may engage in remote order entry as provided in this paragraph,
 31 the director of pharmacy of the hospital shall submit to the board written policies and
 32 procedures for the use of remote order entry. The required policies and procedures to

33 be submitted to the board shall be in accordance with the American Society of
34 Health-System Pharmacists and shall contain provisions addressing quality assurance
35 and safety, mechanisms to clarify medication orders, processes for reporting medication
36 errors, documentation and record keeping, secure electronic access to the hospital
37 pharmacy's patient information system and to other electronic systems that the on-site
38 pharmacist has access to, access to hospital policies and procedures, confidentiality and
39 security, and mechanisms for real-time communication with prescribers, nurses, and
40 other care givers responsible for the patient's health care.

41 (D) If the board concludes that the hospital's actual use of remote order entry does not
42 comply with this paragraph or the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, it may issue
43 a cease and desist order after notice and hearing."