

The House Committee on Health and Human Services offers the following substitute to HB 68:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-34-11 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 continuing education requirements for physicians, acupuncture, physician assistants, cancer  
3 and glaucoma treatment, respiratory care, clinical perfusionists, and orthotics and prosthetics  
4 practice, so as to revise provisions relating to continuing education requirements for persons  
5 licensed to practice orthotics or prosthetics; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 43-34-11 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to continuing  
10 education requirements for physicians, acupuncture, physician assistants, cancer and  
11 glaucoma treatment, respiratory care, clinical perfusionists, and orthotics and prosthetics  
12 practice, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

13 "(a)(1) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of a license,  
14 certificate, or permit under this chapter to complete board approved continuing education  
15 of not less than 40 hours biennially. The board shall be authorized to approve courses  
16 offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or professional  
17 organizations, including, but not limited to, the American Medical Association, the  
18 National Medical Association, and the American Osteopathic Association, the number  
19 of hours required, and the category in which these hours should be earned. This  
20 paragraph shall not apply to respiratory care professionals, persons seeking renewal of  
21 certification as respiratory care professionals, clinical perfusionists, ~~or~~ persons seeking  
22 renewal of licensure as a clinical perfusionist, licensed orthotists or prosthetists, or  
23 persons seeking renewal of licensure as an orthotist or prosthetist.

24 (2) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of certification as  
25 respiratory care professionals under Article 6 of this chapter to complete board approved  
26 continuing education. The board shall be authorized to establish the number of hours of

continuing education required biennially for renewal of certification as a respiratory care professional and the categories in which these hours should be earned. The board shall be authorized to approve courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or professional organizations. Any action taken by the board pursuant to this paragraph shall be taken in conformity with the provisions of Code Section 43-34-143.

(3) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of licensure as clinical perfusionists under Article 7 of this chapter to complete board approved continuing education. The board shall be authorized to establish the number of hours of continuing education required biennially for renewal of licensure as a clinical perfusionist and the categories in which these hours should be earned. The board shall be authorized to approve courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or professional organizations. Any action taken by the board pursuant to this paragraph shall be taken in conformity with the provisions of Code Section 43-34-172.

(4) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of licensure to practice orthotics or prosthetics under Article 8 of this chapter to complete board approved continuing education. The board shall be authorized to establish the number of hours of continuing education required biennially for renewal of licensure to practice orthotics or prosthetics and the categories in which these hours should be earned, however, the maximum number of hours of continuing education required for renewal of licensure shall not exceed 40 hours. The board shall be authorized to approve courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or professional organizations. Any action taken by the board pursuant to this paragraph shall be taken in conformity with the provisions of subsection (a) of Code Section 43-34-200."

## SECTION 2.

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