

Senate Bill 268

By: Senators Hufstetler of the 52nd and Orrock of the 36th

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Code Section 43-34-103 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 delegation of authority to physician assistants, so as to authorize a physician to delegate to  
3 a physician assistant the authority to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances; to provide  
4 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 43-34-103 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to delegation  
8 of authority to physician assistants, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of and by adding  
9 a new paragraph to subsection (e.1) as follows:

10 "(1) In addition to and without limiting the authority granted by Code Section 43-34-23,  
11 a physician may delegate to a physician assistant, in accordance with a job description,  
12 the authority to issue a prescription drug order or orders for any device as defined in Code  
13 Section 26-4-5 or to issue any dangerous drug as defined in Code Section 16-13-71 or  
14 any Schedule II, III, IV, or V controlled substance as defined in Code Section 16-13-21  
15 on a prescription drug order or prescription device order form as specified in paragraph  
16 (3) of this subsection. Delegation of such authority shall be contained in the job  
17 description required by this Code section; provided, however, that a delegating physician  
18 may not delegate to a physician assistant the authority to issue a prescription drug order  
19 for a Schedule II controlled substance in excess of a 30 day supply. The delegating  
20 physician shall remain responsible for the medical acts of the physician assistant  
21 performing such delegated acts and shall adequately supervise the physician assistant.  
22 If an existing job description for a physician assistant does not contain such authority to  
23 order a prescription drug or device order as provided by this subsection, that physician  
24 assistant may not issue any such prescription drug or device order until a new job  
25 description delegating such authority is submitted to and approved by the board. Nothing

26 in this Code section shall be construed to authorize the written prescription drug order of  
27 a Schedule I ~~or H~~ controlled substance."

28 "(11.1) A physician assistant delegated the authority by the primary supervising  
29 physician to issue a prescription drug order for a Schedule II controlled substance shall  
30 be required to complete three hours of continuing education biennially in the appropriate  
31 ordering and use of Schedule II medications."

32 **SECTION 2.**

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