

House Bill 47 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Meadows of the 5th, Hawkins of the 27th, Hatchett of the 150th, Beverly of the 143rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 26-4-80 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 dispensing prescription drugs, so as to authorize certain refills of topical ophthalmic products
3 under certain conditions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 26-4-80 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to dispensing
8 prescription drugs, is amended by revising subsection (f) as follows:

9 "(f)(1) When filling a prescription or refilling a prescription which may be refilled, the
10 pharmacist shall exercise professional judgment in the matter. No prescription shall be
11 filled or refilled with greater frequency than the approximate interval of time that the
12 dosage regimen ordered by the ~~prescriber~~ practitioner would indicate, unless extenuating
13 circumstances are documented which would justify a shorter interval of time before the
14 filling or refilling of the prescription.

15 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, in order to prevent unintended
16 interruptions in drug therapy for topical ophthalmic products:

17 (A) A pharmacist shall be authorized, without obtaining subsequent authorization from
18 the practitioner or obtaining a new prescription from the practitioner, to permit refills
19 at 70 percent of the predicted days of use; and

20 (B) A practitioner shall be permitted to authorize refills earlier than 70 percent of the
21 predicted days of use.

22 This paragraph shall apply to refills purchased through retail pharmacies and mail order
23 sources."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.