

ADOPTED

Senators Hufstetler of the 52nd, Unterman of the 45th, Jeffares of the 17th, Millar of the 40th, Kirk of the 13th and Orrock of the 36th offers the following amendment:

1 *Amend HB 362 (LC 33 6032S) by inserting after "prescriptions;" on line 11 the following:*
 2 to amend Code Section 43-34-103 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
 3 delegation of authority to physician assistants, so as to authorize a physician to delegate to
 4 a physician assistant the authority to prescribe hydrocodone compound products under
 5 certain conditions; to require additional continuing education;

6 *By inserting between lines 86 and 87 the following:*

7 **SECTION 2A.**

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

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

29 (B)(i) A physician may delegate to a physician assistant, in accordance with a job
 30 description, the authority to issue a prescription drug order or orders for any

31 hydrocodone compound product in accordance with any requirements and limitations
32 established by the board.

33 (ii) A physician shall not delegate to a physician assistant the authority to issue a
34 prescription drug order or orders for any hydrocodone compound product which is not
35 within the scope of practice of such physician."

36 "(11.1) A physician assistant delegated the authority by the primary supervising
37 physician to issue a prescription drug order for a hydrocodone compound product shall
38 be required to complete three hours of continuing education biennially in the appropriate
39 ordering and use of hydrocodone compound products."