

**ADOPTED**

Senators Jeffares 17th, Jackson of the 25th, Unterman of the 45th and Hufstetler of the 52nd offered the following amendment:

1 *Amend HB 588 (LC 33 6465S) by inserting after "exceptions;" on line 6 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; to provide  
5 for a limitation; to provide for additional continuing education requirements regarding  
6 Schedule II controlled substances;

7 *By inserting between lines 177 and 178 the following:*

8 Code Section 43-34-103 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to delegation  
9 of authority to physician assistants, is amended in subsection (e.1) by revising paragraph (1)  
10 and by adding a new paragraph 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 or any Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance as defined in Code  
16 Section 16-13-21 on a prescription drug order or prescription device order form as  
17 specified in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

18 (B) A physician may delegate to a physician assistant the authority to issue a  
19 prescription drug order or orders for up to a 15 day supply of a Schedule II controlled  
20 substance as defined in Code Section 16-13-26 that is a hydrocodone compound  
21 product:

22 (i) If the authority to prescribe such drug is within the scope of practice of such  
23 physician;

24 (ii) If the issuance of such prescription drug order or orders is within such physician  
25 assistant's job description; and

26 (iii) In accordance with requirements and limitations established by the board.

27 (C) Delegation of such authority shall be contained in the job description required by  
28 this Code section. The delegating physician shall remain responsible for the medical  
29 acts of the physician assistant performing such delegated acts and shall adequately  
30 supervise the physician assistant. If an existing job description for a physician assistant  
31 does not contain such authority to order a prescription drug or device order as provided

32 by this subsection, that physician assistant may not issue any such prescription drug or  
33 device order until a new job description delegating such authority is submitted to and  
34 approved by the board.

35 (D) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, nothing ~~Nothing~~ in this  
36 Code section shall be construed to authorize the written prescription drug order of a  
37 Schedule I or II controlled substance."

38 "(11.1) A physician assistant delegated the authority by the primary supervising  
39 physician to issue a prescription drug order for a Schedule II controlled substance in  
40 accordance with subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be required  
41 to complete three hours of continuing education biennially in the appropriate ordering and  
42 use of Schedule II controlled substances. Such hours of continuing education shall be  
43 counted toward the overall biennial continuing education requirements established by the  
44 board for physician assistants."

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### SECTION 3.