

House Bill 214

By: Representative Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-34-26.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 vaccine protocol agreements, so as to remove the geographic limitation on pharmacists; to  
3 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 43-34-26.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to vaccine  
7 protocol agreements, is amended by revising subsections (b) and (j) as follows:

8 "(b) A physician engaged in the active practice of medicine may prescribe a vaccine for  
9 a group of patients via a vaccine order contained in a vaccine protocol agreement to be  
10 administered by a pharmacist, provided the physician is registered with the vaccination  
11 registry established by the Department of Public Health pursuant to Code Section  
12 31-12-3.1, commonly known as the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and  
13 Services; ~~the pharmacist is located within the county of the physician's place of~~  
14 ~~registration with the vaccination registry or a county contiguous thereto;~~ the pharmacist  
15 holds current certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support and has completed a course of  
16 training accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education or similar  
17 health authority or professional body approved by the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy;  
18 and the pharmacist completes a training program recognized by the Centers for Disease  
19 Control and Prevention in the basics of immunology which focuses on practice  
20 implementation and legal and regulatory issues, composed of: (1) at least 12 hours of  
21 self-study and an assessment exam; (2) at least eight hours of live seminar with a final  
22 exam; and (3) a hands-on assessment of intramuscular and subcutaneous injection  
23 technique. A physician who is a party to a vaccine protocol agreement may also  
24 prescribe epinephrine via a vaccine order contained in a vaccine protocol agreement for  
25 administration by a pharmacist upon the occurrence of an actual or perceived  
26 anaphylactic adverse reaction to the administered vaccine, provided that the vaccine

27 protocol agreement sets forth the signs and symptoms that warrant the administration of  
28 epinephrine."

29 "(j) A delegating physician may not enter into a vaccine protocol agreement with more  
30 than ten pharmacists or nurses, or any combination thereof, at any one time; provided,  
31 however, and notwithstanding the geographic ~~limitations~~ limitation provided in ~~subsections~~  
32 ~~(b) and subsection~~ (c) of this Code section, a delegating physician may enter into a vaccine  
33 protocol agreement with more than ten pharmacists or nurses, or any combination thereof,  
34 at any one time so long as the ~~pharmacists or nurses~~ are in the same public health district  
35 as established pursuant to Code Section 31-3-15 and the pharmacists and nurses are  
36 employees or agents of the same corporate entity."

37 **SECTION 2.**

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