

House Bill 290 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Silcox of the 52nd, Cannon of the 58th, Gaines of the 117th, and Greene of the 151st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 17A of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 control of HIV, so as to establish a pilot program to provide preexposure prophylaxis drug
3 assistance or services to persons at risk of being infected with HIV; to provide for
4 requirements; to provide for implementation of the pilot program; to provide for a written
5 report; to provide for related matters; to provide for a contingent effective date; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 17A of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to control of
10 HIV, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "31-17A-4.

12 (a) The department shall conduct a three-year pilot program for the purpose of providing
13 preexposure prophylaxis drug assistance or services to persons who have tested negative
14 for the HIV infection but who have risk factors that expose them to HIV. The pilot
15 program shall be conducted in counties identified by the federal Centers for Disease
16 Control and Prevention as at risk of outbreaks of HIV as a result of a high rate of opioid
17 related use or in such other counties as determined by the department. In designing the
18 pilot program, the department may obtain advisement and consultation from county health
19 departments in counties in this state that have an existing preexposure prophylaxis drug
20 assistance program or related services.

21 (b) The pilot program shall provide assistance for preexposure prophylaxis medications
22 approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration and for medical, laboratory, and
23 outreach costs incurred in treatment. The department shall establish benchmark data at the
24 beginning of the pilot program which shall be compared to data at the end of such pilot
25 program to measure the effectiveness of such program. Participants in the pilot program
26 shall be subject to clinical guidelines established by the department consistent with

27 guidance from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which may include,
28 but not be limited to, regular HIV testing, education information, sexually transmitted
29 infection testing, and supportive services. Education information may be provided in
30 writing, orally, or both.

31 (c) The department shall be authorized to solicit and accept grants of funding or in-kind
32 services for use in conducting the pilot program.

33 (d) The department is authorized to establish such rules and regulations as may be
34 necessary to implement the pilot program.

35 (e) No later than December 31, 2022, the department shall submit a detailed written report
36 on the implementation and effectiveness of the pilot program to the Governor, the Speaker
37 of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the chairpersons of the
38 House Committee on Health and Human Services and the Senate Health and Human
39 Services Committee. Such report shall also include recommendations as to expansion of
40 the pilot program state-wide."

41 **SECTION 2.**

42 This Act shall become effective only upon the effective date of a specific appropriation of
43 funds for purposes of this Act, as expressed in a line item making specific reference to such
44 Act in a General Appropriations Act enacted by the General Assembly.

45 **SECTION 3.**

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