

House Bill 218

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Hawkins of the 27th, Cooper of the 45th, Drenner of the 85th, and Taylor of the 173rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 31-7-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 vaccinations for influenza and pneumococcal disease for certain discharged patients,
3 vaccinations or other measures for health care workers and other employees in hospitals,
4 immunity from liability, and standing orders, so as to lower the age from 50 to 18 years old
5 at which hospitals shall offer inpatient vaccinations for the influenza virus prior to discharge;
6 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 31-7-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to vaccinations for
10 influenza and pneumococcal disease for certain discharged patients, vaccinations or other
11 measures for health care workers and other employees in hospitals, immunity from liability,
12 and standing orders, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

13 "(a) Prior to discharging any inpatient who is ~~50~~ 18 years of age or older, a hospital shall
14 offer the inpatient a vaccination for the influenza virus. Prior to discharging any inpatient
15 who is 65 years of age or older, a hospital shall offer the inpatient a vaccination for
16 pneumococcal disease. Such vaccinations shall be provided in accordance with the

17 recommendations of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and any
18 applicable rules and regulations of the department, unless contraindicated, and contingent
19 on availability of such vaccine. A hospital may offer other patients such vaccinations in
20 accordance with the recommendations of the federal Centers for Disease Control and
21 Prevention and any applicable rules and regulations of the department. The vaccinations
22 may be administered pursuant to a standing order that has been approved by the hospital's
23 medical staff."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.