

The House Committee on Health and Human Services offers the following substitute to HB 214:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

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

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