**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 40‑43‑86, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PHARMACIST OVERSIGHT OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS, SO AS TO REMOVE REQUIREMENTS OF STATE CERTIFICATION FOR PHARMACY TECHNICIANS SUPERVISED BY A PHARMACIST; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40‑43‑130, RELATING TO SATISFACTION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACY TECHNICIANS BY ATTENDANCE AT LECTURES, SEMINARS, OR WORKSHOPS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS ALSO MAY BE SATISFIED THROUGH COMPLETION OF ONLINE COURSEWORK OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE FORMATS, AND TO DELETE RELATED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMATS THAT MUST BE USED.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 40‑43‑86(B)(4)(b) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(b) The pharmacist‑in‑charge shall develop and implement written policies and procedures to specify the duties to be performed by pharmacy technicians. The duties and responsibilities of these personnel ~~shall~~ must be consistent with their training and experience. These policies and procedures shall, at a minimum, specify that pharmacy technicians are to be personally supervised by a licensed pharmacist who has the ability to control and who is responsible for the activities of pharmacy technicians and that pharmacy technicians are not assigned duties that only may be performed ~~only~~ by a licensed pharmacist. One pharmacist may not supervise more than three pharmacy technicians at a time~~; through June 30, 2006, at least one of these three technicians must be state‑certified, and after June 30, 2006, at least two of these three technicians must be state‑certified. If a pharmacist supervises only one or two pharmacy technicians, these technicians are not required to be state‑certified~~. Pharmacy technicians do not include personnel in the prescription area performing only clerical functions, including data entry up to the point of dispensing, as defined in Section 40‑43‑30(14).”

SECTION 2. Section 40‑43‑130(G)(1) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(1) As a condition of registration renewal, a registered pharmacy technician shall complete ten hours of American Council on Pharmaceutical Education or CME I approved continuing education each year, beginning with the next renewal period after June 30, 2003. ~~A minimum of four hours of the total~~ These hours must be obtained through any combination of online courses and attendance at lectures, seminars, or workshops.”

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑