**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 44‑53‑362 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN REFILLS BY PRACTITIONERS AND PHARMACISTS OF TOPICAL OPHTHALMIC PRODUCTS UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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

SECTION 1. Article 3, Chapter 53, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 44‑53‑362. (A) Notwithstanding another provision of law, in order to prevent unintended interruptions in drug therapy for topical ophthalmic products:

(1) a pharmacist is authorized, without obtaining subsequent authorization from the practitioner or obtaining a new prescription from the practitioner, to permit refills at seventy percent of the predicted days of use; and

(2) a practitioner, other than a pharmacist, is permitted to authorize refills earlier than seventy percent of the predicted days of use for patients who have continual difficulty with inadvertent wastage.

(B) This section applies to refills purchased through retail pharmacies and mail order sources.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑