**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTIONS 44-53-360(b) AND (e) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIONS OF NARCOTICS AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, TO PROVIDE THAT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AS PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 44-53-210(b) AND (c) AND PRESCRIPTIONS FOR SCHEDULE III CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AS PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 44-53-230(d) AND (e) MUST NOT EXCEED A SEVEN-DAY SUPPLY FOR A FIRST PRESCRIPTION, AND TO PROVIDE THAT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT PRESCRIPTION FOR THE SAME TREATMENT PLAN MUST NOT EXCEED A FOUR-DAY SUPPLY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44-53-360(b) and (e) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(b) A pharmacist may dispense a controlled substance included in Schedule III, IV, or V pursuant to either a written prescription signed by a practitioner, or a facsimile of a written, signed prescription, transmitted by the practitioner or the practitioner's agent to the pharmacy, or pursuant to an oral prescription, reduced promptly to writing and filed by the pharmacist. A prescription transmitted by facsimile must be received at the pharmacy as it was originally transmitted by facsimile and must include the name and address of the practitioner, the phone number for verbal confirmation, the time and date of transmission, and the name of the pharmacy intended to receive the transmission, as well as any other information required by federal or state law. Such prescription for controlled substances included in Schedule III, IV, or V that are not opioids, when authorized, may not be refilled more than five times or later than six months after the date of the prescription unless renewed by the practitioner. Prescriptions for controlled substances included in Schedule III as provided in Sections 44-53-230(d) and (e) that are opioids must be filled in accordance with subsection (e)”

“(e) ~~Prescriptions for controlled substances in Schedule II with the exception of transdermal patches, must not exceed a thirty-one day supply. Prescriptions for Schedule II substances must be dispensed within ninety days of the date of issue, after which time they are void. Prescriptions for controlled substances in Schedules III through V, inclusive, must not exceed a ninety-day supply.~~ (1) Prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances as provided in Sections 44-53-210(b) and (c) must not exceed a seven-day supply for a first prescription. A second or subsequent prescription for the same treatment plan must not exceed a four-day supply.

(2) Prescriptions for all other Schedule II controlled substances that are not opioids, with the exception of transdermal patches, must not exceed a thirty-one-day supply.

(3) Prescriptions for Schedule II substances must be dispensed within ninety days of the date of issue, after which time they are void.

(4) Prescriptions for Schedule III controlled substances as provided in Sections 44-53-230(d) and (e) must not exceed a seven-day supply for a first prescription. A second or subsequent prescription for the same treatment plan must not exceed a four-day supply.

(5) Prescriptions for all other controlled substances in Schedules III through V that are not opioids must not exceed a ninety-day supply.”

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

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