**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 44‑53‑360, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO PRESCRIPTIONS, SO AS TO ALLOW PHARMACISTS TO DISPENSE A VARYING QUANTITY OF MAINTENANCE MEDICATION, WITH EXCEPTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 44‑53‑360 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( )(1) Unless the prescriber has specified on the prescription that dispensing a prescription for a maintenance medication in an initial amount followed by periodic refills is medically necessary, a pharmacist may exercise his professional judgment to dispense varying quantities of medication per refill up to the total number of dosage units as authorized by the prescriber on the original prescription, including any refills.

(2) Item (1) does not apply to scheduled medications or any medications for which a report is required under the prescription monitoring program. Dispensing of medication based on refills authorized by the practitioner on the prescription must be limited to no more than a ninety‑day supply of the medication.”

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

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