

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2015-180

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3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND
4 LABOR STUDY OTHER STATES REGARDING THE USE OF PHARMACISTS TO
5 PROVIDE ACCESS TO CERTAIN MEDICATIONS, TO ADMINISTER MEDICATIONS,
6 AND TO DEFINE PHARMACISTS AS HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS CONSISTENT WITH
7 OTHER AREAS OF ARKANSAS LAW.

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9 WHEREAS, pharmacists and pharmacies are located in all seventy-five
10 (75) counties within Arkansas and are the most accessible healthcare
11 providers for many Arkansans; and
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13 WHEREAS, pharmacists are trained to help make pharmaceutical product
14 selection once a diagnosis has been rendered by a physician or a mid-level
15 provider working under the supervision of a physician; and
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17 WHEREAS, when a diagnosis from a physician is not required, a
18 pharmacist is capable of initiating appropriate medication therapy, or drug
19 therapy, in collaboration with an authorized prescriber or under a statewide
20 protocol; and
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22 WHEREAS, pharmacists have been allowed to administer medications in
23 Arkansas since 1997; and
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25 WHEREAS, since 1997, new medications have come to market that require
26 administration, and pharmacists are trained in the appropriate techniques for
27 administration; and
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29 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas has an interest in increasing healthcare
30 access to its citizens,
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32 NOW THEREFORE,

33 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR OF
34 THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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36 THAT the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study:

1 (1) Increasing access to medications that do not require a
2 diagnosis by a physician through allowing licensed pharmacists within
3 Arkansas to initiate medication, or drug, therapy;

4 (2) The ability of pharmacists in other states to initiate
5 medication, or drug, therapy for medications that do not require a diagnosis
6 by a physician; and

7 (3) The ability of pharmacists in other states to administer
8 medication.

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10 Respectfully submitted,

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14 Representative Justin Boyd
15 District 77

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18 By: JMB/JMB
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