

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2015-180

2
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.

8
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

12
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

16
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

21
22 WHEREAS, pharmacists have been allowed to administer medications in
23 Arkansas since 1997; and

24
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

28
29 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas has an interest in increasing healthcare
30 access to its citizens,

31
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:

35
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.

9
10 Respectfully submitted,

11
12
13
14 Representative Justin Boyd
15 District 77

16
17
18 By: JMB/JMB
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36