

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-247

REQUESTING THE INTERIM SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR AND THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR TO STUDY THE PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFIT OF ELIMINATING THE AGE RESTRICTION FOR PHARMACISTS TO ADMINISTER MEDICATIONS AND TO STUDY THE PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFIT OF UTILIZING PHARMACISTS FOR THE PROVISION OF PRIMARY CARE SERVICES.

WHEREAS, providing immunizations to children helps reduce the prevalence of common preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, over twenty-five (25%) percent of Arkansas children between ages thirty-five (35) months and nineteen (19) years are not fully vaccinated against common preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas citizens in rural areas of the state often lack access to primary care screenings and other services; and

WHEREAS, access to primary preventative care services and other services can reduce the number of Arkansans with chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, pharmacists are trained to provide immunizations and other primary care services; and

WHEREAS, pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare professionals and are located in rural communities throughout Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE INTERIM SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate and House Interim Committees on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study increasing Arkansans' access to immunizations and other medications by removing the age limit restrictions for pharmacists to administer medications.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED:

THAT the House Interim Committee on Public Health specifically study the provision of primary care services by pharmacists and the impact provision of these services will have on access to care and improvement of public health in Arkansas.

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Percy Malone  
District 26

By: MGF/LBL