

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-151

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly

A Bill

JMB/JMB
HOUSE BILL

By: Representative Gramlich

Filed with: House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
PHARMACY" TO ALLOW A PHARMACIST TO PRESCRIBE,
ADMINISTER, DELIVER, DISTRIBUTE, OR DISPENSE
VACCINES, IMMUNIZATIONS, AND MEDICATIONS THAT TREAT
ADVERSE REACTIONS TO AN INFANT FOR RESPIRATORY
SYNCYTIAL VIRUS DISEASE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
PHARMACY" TO ALLOW A PHARMACIST TO
PRESCRIBE, ADMINISTER, DELIVER,
DISTRIBUTE, OR DISPENSE VACCINES AND
IMMUNIZATIONS TO AN INFANT FOR
RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS DISEASE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-92-101(18)(A)(i)(c) and (d), concerning
the definition of "practice of pharmacy", are amended to read as follows:

(c) A pharmacist may prescribe, administer,
deliver, distribute, or dispense medications that treat adverse reactions
associated with the administration of vaccines and immunizations, vaccines,
and immunizations to or for a person who is:

(1) Three ~~three~~ (3) years of age or

1 older; or

2 (2) An infant if the vaccine,
3 immunization, or medications, including monoclonal antibodies for
4 immunization, are for a respiratory syncytial virus disease of the infant and
5 are administered under the guidelines issued by the United States Food and
6 Drug Administration.

7 (d) A pharmacist who prescribes and
8 administers vaccines and immunizations other than for influenza or
9 coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) to a person who is three (3) years of age to six
10 (6) years of age or is an infant under subdivision (18)(A)(i)(c)(2) of this
11 section shall:

12 (1) Participate in the federal Vaccines
13 for Children Program; and

14 (2) Inform the person ~~who is three (3)~~
15 ~~years of age to six (6) years of age and adult caregivers~~ and his or her
16 adult caregiver accompanying the person ~~who is three (3) years of age to six~~
17 ~~(6) years of age~~ of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician
18 or other licensed primary care provider and recommend a well-child visit at
19 least yearly.

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21 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-92-101(18)(C)(ii), concerning the
22 definition of "practice of pharmacy" relating to pharmacy technicians, is
23 amended to read as follows:

24 (ii) A pharmacy technician may administer vaccines
25 and immunizations to a person three (3) years of age or older or to an infant
26 under subdivision (18)(A)(i)(c)(2) of this section if delegated to do so by a
27 supervising pharmacist, but may not administer other medications.

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29 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-92-101, concerning the definitions
30 relating to pharmacy, pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians, is amended to
31 add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

32 (27) "Infant" means a child less than eight (8) months of age;
33 and

34 (28) "Respiratory syncytial virus disease" means a respiratory
35 infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by the respiratory syncytial
36 virus.

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Referred by Representative Gramlich

Prepared by: JMB/JMB