A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 31-7-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to influenza vaccinations for discharged patients aged 65 and older, vaccinations or other measures for health care workers in hospitals, immunity from liability, and standing orders, so as to lower the age to 50 years old for hospitals to offer inpatients vaccinations for the influenza virus prior to discharge; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 31-7-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to influenza vaccinations for discharged patients aged 65 and older, vaccinations or other measures for health care workers in hospitals, immunity from liability, and standing orders, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

"(a) Prior to discharging any inpatient who is 50 years of age or older, a hospital shall offer the inpatient a vaccination for the influenza virus. Prior to discharging any inpatient who is 65 years of age or older, a hospital shall offer the inpatient vaccinations for the influenza virus and pneumococcal disease. Such vaccinations shall be provided in

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accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and any applicable rules and regulations of the department, unless contraindicated and contingent on availability of such vaccine. A hospital may offer other patients such vaccinations in accordance with the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and any applicable rules and regulations of the department. The vaccinations may be administered pursuant to a standing order that has been approved by the hospital's medical staff."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.