

The Georgia Board of Nursing met October 15, 2007 via teleconference at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Linda Herren, RN, CRNA, President  
Karen Wessinger, BSHE, Vice President  
Susan Ayers, RN, BSN, MPH  
Toni Barnett, RN, Ph.D., FNP-C  
Linda Easterly, RN, BSN, MSA, MS  
Delynn Keeton, RN, MN, CPHRM  
Kellie R. Lockwood, RN, MSN  
Scott Thigpen, RN, MSN, CEN, CCRN

**STAFF PRESENT**

Sandy Bond, Executive Director  
Gwen Dodson, Board Secretary  
Deborah Beard, Compliance Manager  
Adrienne Price, RN, MSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Janet Jackson, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Mrs. Herren called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Mrs. Herren moved, Dr. Barnett seconded and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k), 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, *to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports, and pending cases*. The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted to enter into Executive Session: Mrs. Lockwood, Mrs. Keeton, Mr. Thigpen, Mrs. Lockwood and Mrs. Ayers.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Monday, October 15, 2007 Mrs. Wessinger declared the meeting to be "Open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. 50-14-1-et.seq.

**TEMPORARY PERMIT EXTENSION**

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

**RNI080058**– Mr. Thigpen moved to schedule an investigative interview at the November 2007 to be conducted by members appointed by the Board. Dr. Barnett seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INITIAL ADVANCED PRACTICE APPLICANT**

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

**Applicant # 1103742** – Dr. Barnett moved to proceed with Authorization. Mrs. Wessinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MPE VIOLATION**

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

**RNI060137** – Mrs. Wessinger moved to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Hearing or Indefinite Suspension based on violation of MPE order. Mrs. Easterly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Applicant #1087475** – Mr. Thigpen moved to rescind the previous Board motion for falsification of application and proceed with licensure by Examination. Mrs. Wessinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

(RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

**Hannon, Amber** – Mr. Thigpen moved to have an Initial Hearing for Mrs. Hannon on Friday, November 16, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. Mrs. Lockwood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Dr. Barnett moved to vote to post Rule 410-11-.03. Mrs. Keeton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED NEW RULE TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING  
CHAPTER 410-11: STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board of Nursing (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt a new rule to the Rules of the Georgia Board of Nursing, Chapter 410-11. The proposed new rule clarifies the use of written protocols authorized under O.C.G.A 43-34-26.1 by registered professional nurses.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new rule and a synopsis of the proposed new rule, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed new rule, and a synopsis of the proposed new rule may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia Board of Nursing's web page at [www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/rn](http://www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/rn). Copies may also be requested by contacting the Georgia Board of Nursing office at (478) 207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on November 16, 2007 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received on or before November 5, 2007. Written comments should be addressed to Donald Munday, Acting Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia Board of Nursing, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. FAX: 478-207-1660.

The proposed rule will be considered for adoption by the Georgia Board of Nursing at its meeting scheduled to begin at 8:35 a.m. November 16, 2007 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 30217. According to legal advice rendered by the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia Board of Nursing has the authority to adopt the proposed new rule to Chapter 410-11, pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§ 43-26-3 (6), (8) and 43-26-5 (a).

In accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 50-13-4 (a) (4), the Board voted at its conference call meeting on October 15, 2007 that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and that any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-26-1 et seq.

The Board also voted at its meeting on November 15, 2007 that, in order to meet the objectives O.C.G.A. §§43-26-1 et seq. it is not legal or feasible to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as required by the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner and will have the same impact on each licensee that is independently owned and operated in the field of nursing.

For further information, contact the Board office at 478-207-1651.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

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Donald Munday  
*Division Director*  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARDS

Posted: \_\_\_\_\_

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED RULE TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES  
RULE 410-11-.03**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this rule adoption is to clarify protocol use by registered nurses.

**MAIN FEATURE:** The main feature of this rule is to identify settings for registered professional nurses who use protocols as authorized by OCGA §43-34-26.1.

**PROPOSED NEW RULE TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES, CHAPTER 410-11  
STANDARDS OF PRACTICE; RULE 410-11-.03 USE OF NURSE PROTOCOLS AUTHORIZED BY O.C.G.A. §  
43-34-26.1 BY REGISTERED NURSES IN SPECIFIC SETTINGS**

**NOTE:** Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

Rule 410-11-.03 Use of Nurse Protocols Authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 by Registered Nurses in Specific Settings

**410-11-.03 Use of Nurse Protocols Authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 by Registered Nurses in Specific Settings**

(1) The general purpose of this rule is to protect and safeguard the public by regulating the practice of registered nurses ("RNs") who use protocols in specific settings as authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1.

(2) A RN who uses a nurse protocol in specific settings as authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 shall:

(a) hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse in Georgia;

(b) adhere to a nurse protocol which is a written document mutually agreed upon and signed by the nurse and licensed physician which delegates to the nurse the authority to perform specified medical acts and provides for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a physician designated in the absence of the delegating physician;

(c) document preparation and performance specific to each medical act authorized under O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1, including ordering dangerous drugs, medical treatments, or diagnostic studies and the dispensing of dangerous drugs in accordance with dispensing procedure and under the authority of a physician's order.

(3) The nurse protocol used by a RN pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 shall comply with the following criteria:

(a) shall bear a current review date, be available upon request; and specify parameters under which delegated medical acts may be performed;

(b) shall include a schedule for periodic review of patient records by the delegating physician;

(c) shall be reviewed, revised or updated annually;

(d) shall include a provision for immediate consultation with the delegating physician designated in the absence of the delegating physician;

(e) shall comply with provisions for ordering or dispensing drugs under subsection (b) of Code Section 26-4-130 and the rules and regulations established pursuant thereto by the State Board of Pharmacy and adhere to a written dispensing procedure when dispensing dangerous drugs as required by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 (a) (3.1) and (4).

(4) A RN may practice under protocol pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1 as an agent or employee of the following;

(a) The Division of Public Health of the Department of Human Resources;

(b) Any county board of health;

(c) Any organization:

(1) Which is exempt from federal taxes pursuant to Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in Code Section 48-1-2, other than an organization which is a hospital, preferred provider organization, health maintenance organization, or similar organization; or

(2) Established under the authority of or receiving funds pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 254b or 254c of the United States Public Health Service Act.

(3) Which organization provides that those medical services and dangerous drugs which are ordered or dispensed by its nurses will be provided at no cost to patient or at a cost based solely upon the patient's ability to pay.

(d) An outpatient clinic:

(1) Which is owned or operated by a licensed hospital;

(2) Which provides such drugs, treatments, or studies free or at a charge to the patient based solely upon the patient's ability to pay; provided, however, such charge shall not exceed the actual cost to the outpatient clinic; and

(3) Whose services are primarily provided to the medically disadvantaged.

**O.C.G.A. §§ 43-26-3 (6), (8) and 43-26-5 (a).**

Mr. Thigpen moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws. Mrs. Keeton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Dr. Barnett moved to vote to post the amended Rule 410-13-.01. Mrs. Ayers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND A NEW RULE  
TO THE GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING CHAPTER 410-13: REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY  
REGISTERED NURSES AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board of Nursing (hereinafter "Board") proposes to amend existing Rule 410-13 and to adopt new Rule 410-13-.02 of the Rules of the Georgia Board of Nursing, Chapter 410-13. The proposed rule amendments and new rule are intended to clarify the use of protocols by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses under O.C.G.A. §§43-34-26.1 and 43-34-26.3.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new rule and with a synopsis of the proposed rule amendment(s) and new rule, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendment(s), and the new rule with a synopsis may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia Board of Nursing's web page at [www.sos.georgia.gov.us/plb/rn](http://www.sos.georgia.gov.us/plb/rn). Copies may also be requested by contacting the Georgia Board of Nursing office at (478) 207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to be held at 8:30 a.m. on November 16, 2007 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendments and new rule. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received on or before November 5, 2007. Written comments should be addressed to Donald Munday, Acting Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, Georgia Board of Nursing, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. FAX: (478) 207-1660.

The proposed rule amendments and new rule will be considered for adoption by the Georgia Board of Nursing at its meeting scheduled to begin at 8:35 a.m. November 16, 2007 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 30217. According to legal advice rendered by the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia Board of Nursing has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 410-13, pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A. §§43-26-1, et seq., also known as the Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act.

In accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 50-13-4 (a) (4), the Board voted at its conference meeting on October 15, 2007, that the formulation and adoption of these rules do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and that any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§43-26-1 et seq.

The Board voted also at its conference call meeting on October 15, 2007 that, in order to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§43-26-1 et seq., it is not legal or feasible to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as required by the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and will have the same impact on each business that is independently owned and operated in the field of nursing.

For further information, contact the Board office at (478) 207-1651.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

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Donald Munday  
*Division Director*  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARDS

Posted: \_\_\_\_\_

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES  
RULE 410-13-.01**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this rule revision is to update and clarify protocol use by advanced practice registered nurses as authorized by OCGA §43-34-26.1

**MAIN FEATURE:** The main feature of this rule is to clarify protocol use by advanced practice registered nurses who do not issue prescription drug orders.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES, CHAPTER 410-13 REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY  
REGISTERED NURSES; RULE 410-13-.01 REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY REGISTERED NURSES IN  
SPECIFIC SETTINGS. AMENDED**

**NOTE:** Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted.

Rule 410-13-.01 Regulation of Protocol Use By Advanced Practice Registered Nurses as Authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1. Amended.

**410-13-.01 Regulation of Protocol Use By Advanced Practice Registered Nurses as Authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1. Amended.**

(1) The general purpose of these rules is to assist in protecting and safeguarding the public by regulating the practice of advanced practice registered nurses who use protocols as authorized by O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.1.

(2) An advanced practice registered nurse who uses a protocol as authorized by O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.1 must shall:

(a) hold a current license to practice as a registered nurse in Georgia;

~~(b) document preparation and performance specific to each medical act authorized by protocol including ordering dangerous drugs, medical treatments or diagnostic studies;~~ hold a current authorization as an advanced registered nurse in Georgia; agreement

(c) adhere to a written document ~~(protocol)~~ which is a written document mutually agreed upon and signed by the nurse and licensed physician which specifies delegated medical acts delegated by the physician to the nurse and provides for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a physician designated in ~~his or her~~ the absence of the delegating physician; and

(d) document preparation and performance specific to each medical act authorized by a written nurse protocol, including the ordering and administering of controlled substances, ordering and dispensing of dangerous drugs, and ordering medical treatments and diagnostic studies in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.1.

(3) ~~A registered Nurse may only be authorized to practice by use of a protocol if it adheres to the following criteria:~~ The nurse protocol agreement used by an advanced practice registered nurse under the provisions of O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.1 shall comply with the following criteria:

~~(a) must bear a current review date; be available upon request; and specify parameters under which delegated medical acts may be performed;~~ shall be in writing and signed by the advanced practice nurse and the delegating physician;

~~(b) must include a schedule for periodic review of patient records by the delegating physician; shall be dated, available upon request; and specify parameters under which medical acts delegated by the physician maybe performed;~~

~~(c) must be reviewed, revised or updated annually;~~ shall include for periodic review of patient records by the delegating physician;

~~(d) must include a provision for immediate consultation with the delegating physician designated in his or her absence. shall be reviewed, revised or updated annually;~~

~~(e) shall include a provision for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a physician designated in the absence of the delegating physician; and~~

~~(f) shall contain written provisions regarding the procedure for dispensing dangerous drugs which comply with O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.1 (a)(3), (3.1), (4), and (5), if the dispensing of dangerous drugs is included as a delegated medical act in the nurse protocol agreement.~~

~~(g) shall contain written provisions regarding the procedure for ordering controlled substances which comply with paragraph (b)(1) of O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.1, if the ordering of controlled substances is included as a delegated medical act in the nurse protocol agreement.~~

**Authority O.C.G.A. §43-26-3 and 43-26-5.**

Mr. Thigpen moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws. Mrs. Lockwood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Dr. Barnett moved to vote to post the amended Rule 410-13-.02. Mrs. Keeton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE  
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES  
RULE 410-13-.02**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this rule revision is to update and clarify protocol use by advanced practice registered nurses as authorized by OCGA §43-34-26.3.

**MAIN FEATURE:** The main feature of this rule is to clarify protocol use by advanced practice registered nurses who issue prescription drug orders.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF NURSING RULES, CHAPTER 410-13 REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY REGISTERED NURSES; RULE 410-13-.02 REGULATION OF PROTOCOL USE BY ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AS AUTHORIZED BY O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.3**

**NOTE:** Underlined text is proposed to be added; lined through text is proposed to be deleted. 410-13-.02 Use By Advanced Practice Registered Nurses of Nurse Protocol Agreements Authorized by O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.3.

Rule 410-13-.02 Regulation of Protocol Use By Advanced Practice Registered Nurses as Authorized by O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.3.

**410-13-.02 Regulation of Protocol Use By Advanced Practice Registered Nurses as Authorized by O.C.G.A. §43-34-26.3.**

(1) An advanced practice registered nurse ("APRN") who uses a protocol authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.3 shall:

(a) hold a current license to practice as a registered professional nurse in Georgia;

(b) hold a current authorization to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse in Georgia;

(c) adhere to a written nurse protocol agreement that is dated and signed by the APRN, the delegating physician, and any other designated physician(s); the APRN's area of practice shall be in the same or comparable specialty as that of the delegating physician; the protocol shall specify the medical acts delegated to the APRN as provided by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.3 and shall provide for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a designated physician if the delegating physician is not available; and

(d) document preparation and performance specific to each medical act authorized by the written nurse protocol agreement including ordering drugs, medical treatments or diagnostic studies, medical devices, or, in life threatening situations, radiographic imaging tests.

(2) An APRN may practice under a nurse protocol agreement authorized by O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.3 if the nurse protocol agreement adheres to the following criteria:

(a) shall bear a current review date; be available upon request; and specify parameters under which delegated medical acts may be performed to include kinds of diagnostic studies which may be ordered, the extent to which radio logic image tests may be ordered, provisions for the reading and interpretation of such tests by a physician who is trained in the reading and interpretation of the tests, circumstances under which prescription drugs orders may be executed, number of refills which may be ordered, include a frequency of follow up review of the patient by the physician, including patients who are on controlled substances;

(b) shall include a schedule for periodic review of patient records by the delegating physician, which records review may be achieved with a sampling of such records as determined by the delegating physician;

(c) shall be reviewed, revised or updated annually by the APRN, the delegating physician, and any designated physician;

(d) shall include a provision for immediate consultation with the delegating physician or a physician designated in the absence of the delegating physician; and

(e) shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.3 regarding prescription drug orders placed by an APRN for a drug or medical device including, but not limited to, the following:

1. no prescription drug orders submitted by an APRN for Schedule I or II controlled substances;

2. no refills of any drug for more than 12 months from the date of the original Order, except in the case of oral contraceptives, hormone replacement therapy, or prenatal vitamins, which may be refilled for a period of 24 months;

3. no drug order or medical device that may result in the performance or occurrence of an abortion, including the administration, prescription or issuance of a drug order that is intended to cause an abortion to occur pharmacologically;

4. written prescription drug orders shall be signed by the APRN, be written on forms that comply with the nurse protocol agreement, and such forms shall contain the information required by paragraph (d) of O.C.G.A. § 43-34-26.3;

5. a written provision in the nurse protocol agreement authorizing the APRN to request, receive, and sign for professional samples, and to distribute them to patients in accordance with a list of professional samples approved by the delegating physician that is maintained by the office or facility where the APRN works and that requires the documentation of each sample received and dispensed; and

6. compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the ordering, maintenance, and dispensing of drugs.

(3) Only four (4) advanced practice registered nurses may enter into a nurse protocol agreement with a delegating physician at any one time under O.C.G.A § 43-34-26.3, except this limitation shall not apply to an APRN that is practicing in the following settings:

(a) In a hospital licensed under Title 31;

(b) In any college or university as defined in Code Section 20-8-1;

(c) In the Department of Human Resources;

(d) In any county board of health;

(e) In any free health clinic;

(f) In a birthing center;

(g) In any entity;

1. Which is exempt from federal taxes pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in Code Section 48-1-2, and primarily serves uninsured or indigent Medicaid and Medicare patients; or

2. Which has been established under the authority of or is receiving funds pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 254b or 254c of the United States Public Health Service Act;

(h) In any local board of education which has a school nurse program; or

(i) In a health maintenance organization that has an exclusive contract with a medical group practice and arranges for the provision of substantially all physician services to enrollees in health benefits of the health maintenance organization.

**Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-26-3 and 43-26-5.**

Mr. Thigpen moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws. Mrs. Wessinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

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Linda Herren, *President*

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Sandy Bond, *Executive Director*

The minutes were recorded by Gwen Dodson, Administrative Assistant, and approved November 16, 2007.