The Senate Committee on Health and Human Services offered the following substitute to SB 109:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 43-34-25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurse, so as to authorize the delegation by a physician to an advanced practice registered nurse who has been licensed for at least five years to order radiographic imaging tests in non-life-threatening situations; to revise definitions; 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 43-34-25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to delegation of certain medical acts to advanced practice registered nurse, is amended by revising paragraphs (10) and (11) of subsection (a) and by revising subsection (b) as follows:

(10) 'Nurse protocol agreement' means a written document mutually agreed upon and signed by an advanced practice registered nurse and a physician, by which document the physician delegates to that advanced practice registered nurse the authority to perform certain medical acts pursuant to this Code section, and which acts may include, without being limited to, the ordering of drugs, medical devices, medical treatments, diagnostic studies, or in life-threatening situations radiographic imaging tests; provided, however, that for an advanced practice registered nurse who has been licensed for less than five years, radiographic imaging tests may only be ordered in life-threatening situations. Such agreements shall conform to the provisions set forth in subsection (c) of this Code section.

(11) 'Order' means to prescribe pursuant to a nurse protocol agreement which drug, medical device, medical treatment, diagnostic study, or in life-threatening situations radiographic imaging test is appropriate for a patient and to communicate the same in writing, orally, via facsimile, or electronically.
"(b) In addition to and without limiting the authority granted pursuant to Code Section 43-34-23, a physician may delegate to an advanced practice registered nurse in accordance with a nurse protocol agreement the authority to order drugs, medical devices, medical treatments, or diagnostic studies, or, in life-threatening situations, radiographic imaging tests; provided, however, that an advanced practice registered nurse who has been licensed for less than five years may only order radiographic imaging tests in life-threatening situations."

SECTION 2.

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