

March 12, 2025

To: House Health and Human Services Committee

RE: Proponent – House Bill 2223

My name is Dr. Carter Morrison. I am an optometrist practicing in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. I am from Colby, Kansas and I am a third-generation optometrist. My grandfather, the late Rep. Jim Morrison, OD, practiced in Colby and also served in the Kansas Legislature. My uncle, the late Neal Carr, OD, practiced in Topeka and my father, Jeff Morrison, OD, practices in Colby and has multiple practices throughout northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado. I am in my first year of practice after graduating in 2024 from Northeastern State University College of Optometry in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

I am writing today in support of House Bill 2223, which modernizes the optometric scope of practice to reflect current education and training.

The fact that I was not able to perform the procedures outlined in the bill was a significant consideration for me as I decided where I was going to practice after graduation. Despite my strong family ties to Kansas, I wanted to be able to practice to the full extent and scope of my education and training. Colorado recently passed legislation similar to HB 2223, so I chose to practice in that state, where I could be close to family but could also practice full scope optometry (which I was able to perform at during school).

This is a decision that other students are making as well, as many of them choose to stay in Oklahoma or go to another state where they can practice to the extent of their education.

Please consider passing out House Bill 2223. It will provide patients a choice for these in-office procedures and remove unnecessary restrictions on an optometrist's ability to practice to the level of their training.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carter Morrison, OD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carter Morrison'.

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