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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
From: Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: January 29, 2026
Subject: Bill Brief on HB 2223

House Bill 2223 modifies certain provisions of the optometry law relating to scope of practice, definitions and credentialing requirements.

Section 1 amends K.S.A. 65-1501 to specify the procedures that would and would not be included in the practice of optometry. Subsection (a) specifies what is included in the practice of optometry, with new language added in paragraphs (4) and (5). Paragraph (5) permits additional procedures that are not prohibited in subsection (b) and are within the scope of a licensee's training and education, pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the board of optometry.

Section 2 amends K.S.A. 65-1501a to remove the definitions for the terms "topical pharmaceutical drugs" and "oral drugs".

Section 3 amends K.S.A. 65-1505 to add a subsection (g), which states that any licensee who is applying for credentialing by the board shall complete an application form, which would be furnished by the board, and pay a fee, which would be determined by the board through rules and regulations and would be in an amount necessary to reimburse the board for the cost of credentialing.

Section 4 amends K.S.A. 65-1509a to require the board establish credentialing requirements for a licensee to administer or perform the procedures in K.S.A. 65-1501(a)(4).

Section 5 amends K.S.A. 65-1512 to name the provisions of article 15 of chapter 65, and amendments thereto, the optometry law.

Section 6 amends K.S.A. 65-1523 to allow the board to apply to a court for injunctive relief against any person to restrain violations of this act.

Section 7 amends K.S.A. 74-1504 to provide that the board may maintain and make available to the public a directory that includes the names and addresses of all optometrists licensed by the board.

HB 2223 would take effect on July 1, 202, after publication in the statute book. There were no committee amendments, and the bill passed the house on a vote of 97-24.