

HOUSE BILL No. 2223

By Committee on Health and Human Services

Requested by Representative Buehler on behalf of the Kansas Optometric Association

2-3

1 AN ACT concerning health professions and practices; relating to
2 optometry; modifying certain provisions of the optometry law related to
3 scope of practice, definitions and credentialing requirements; amending
4 K.S.A. 65-1501, 65-1509a, 65-1512, 65-1523 and 74-1504 and K.S.A.
5 2024 Supp. 65-1501a and 65-1505 and repealing the existing sections;
6 also repealing K.S.A. 65-1514 and 74-1505.
7

8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. K.S.A. 65-1501 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-
10 1501. (a) The practice of optometry means:

11 (1) The examination of the human eye and its ~~retinae~~ *adnexa* and
12 the employment of objective or subjective means or methods, (including
13 the administering, prescribing or dispensing; of ~~tepiant~~-pharmaceutical
14 drugs), for the purpose of diagnosing the refractive, muscular, or
15 pathological condition thereof;

16 (2) *the use of medical devices and the prescribing, dispensing or*
17 *adapting of lenses, (including any ophthalmic lenses which are classified*
18 *as drugs by any law of the United States or of this state), prisms, low*
19 *vision rehabilitation services, orthoptic exercises and visual training*
20 *therapy for the relief of any insufficiencies or abnormal conditions of the*
21 *human eye and its ~~retinae~~ *adnexa; and**

22 (3) *the use of medical devices and the prescribing, administering or*
23 *dispensing of ~~tepiant~~ pharmaceutical drugs ~~and oral drugs through all~~*
24 *routes of administration, except intracocular injections, for the*
25 *examination, diagnosis and treatment of ocular conditions and any*
26 *insufficiencies or abnormal conditions of the human eye and its ~~retinae~~*
27 *~~meting~~ ~~atth~~ ~~open~~ ~~angle~~ ~~glaucoma~~ ~~adnexa;~~*

28 (4) *the removal of non - perforating foreign bodies from the cornea,*
29 *conjunctiva or eyelids, removal of eyelashes, scraping the cornea for*
30 *diagnostic tests, smears or cultures, the dilation, probing, irrigation or*
31 *closing the tear drainage structure of the eye, expression of conjunctival*
32 *follicles or cysts, debridement of the corneal epithelium, incision and*
33 *curettage of a chalazion, removal and biopsy of skin lesions without*
34 *known malignancy, laser capsulotomy, laser trabeculoplasty and laser*

Possible Amendment to HB 2223
Credentialing
Senate Public Health and Welfare
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1 peripheral iridotomy; and
 2 (5) the performance of additional procedures that are not otherwise
 3 prohibited by subsection (b) that are within the scope of a licensee's
 4 education and training for the treatment of any insufficiencies or
 5 abnormal conditions of the human eye and its adnexa as authorized
 6 pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the board.

7 (b) The practice of optometry shall not include the performance of
 8 the following procedures: (1) The management and treatment of glaucoma,
 9 except as provided in subsection (a); (2) the performance of surgery,
 10 including the use of lasers for surgical purposes, except that licensees may
 11 remove non-perforating foreign bodies from the cornea; conjunctiva or
 12 eyelids; remove eyelashes; scrape the cornea for diagnostic tests; smears or
 13 eulathes; dilate, probe, irrigate or close by punctal plug the tear drainage
 14 structures of the eye; express conjunctival follicles or cysts; debridement
 15 of the corneal epithelium and re-management of post-operative care; or
 16 (2) the performance of procedures requiring anesthesia administered by
 17 injection or general anesthesia Retinal surgery, penetrating keratoplasty or
 18 corneal transplant, administration of or surgery performed under general
 19 anesthesia, surgery related to the removal of the eye from a living human
 20 being, surgical extraction of the crystalline lens, surgical intraocular
 21 implants, incisional or excisional surgery of the extraocular muscles,
 22 surgery of the bony orbit, laser - assisted in situ keratomileusis or
 23 photorefractive keratectomy, YAG laser vitreolysis, and surgery of the
 24 eyelid for cosmetic or mechanical repair of blepharochalasis, ptosis and
 25 tarsorrhaphy. However, an optometrist may provide pre-operative and
 26 post-operative care for the procedures in this subsection.

27 (c) A licensee shall be held to a standard of care in the diagnosis and
 28 treatment of adult open-angle glaucoma commensurate with that of a
 29 person licensed to practice medicine and surgery, who exercises that
 30 degree of skill and proficiency commonly exercised by an ordinary,
 31 skillful, careful and prudent person licensed to practice medicine and
 32 surgery.

33 (d) Under the direction and supervision of a licensee, a licensed
 34 professional nurse, licensed practical nurse, licensed physical therapist and
 35 licensed occupational therapist may assist in the provision of low vision
 36 rehabilitation services in addition to such other services which that such
 37 licensed professional nurse, licensed practical nurse, licensed physical
 38 therapist and licensed occupational therapist is authorized by law to
 39 provide under subsection (f) of K.S.A. 65-1113(d), subsection (h) of
 40 K.S.A. 65-1124(h), subsection (b) of K.S.A. 65-2901(b) and subsection (b)
 41 of K.S.A. 65-5402(b), and amendments thereto.

42 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 65-1501a is hereby amended to read as
 43 follows: 65-1501a. For the purposes of this act the following terms shall

A licensee who seeks to perform any of the procedures authorized by this section shall be required to receive credentialing from the board, which shall be granted upon:

(1) Successful completion of a training course determined by the board; and

(2) performance of 10 procedures on live patients supervised by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who is qualified to perform the procedures in this section.

(d)
 (and relettering subsections accordingly)