


SB129 Primary Eye Care Modernization Bill

Optometry's first proposal to adjust its scope of practice in 15 years; a bill designed to better serve patients in an ever-changing healthcare landscape.

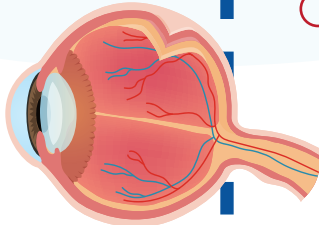


What **IS** included in the Primary Eye Care Modernization Bill:

✔ **Procedures to Remove Benign Lesions like Cysts, Styes & Skin Tags**

✔ **In-Office Noninvasive Laser Procedures**

- Capsulotomy: removal of film that sometimes forms as a complication of cataract surgery
- Selective laser trabeculoplasty: a glaucoma procedure which lowers pressure in the eye
- Peripheral Iridotomy: a procedure to prevent closed angle glaucoma



✔ **Update Pharmaceutical Regulations to Allow for Treatment of Conditions of the Eye (no changes to opioid standards)**

✔ **Patient Safety**

- No changes in optometric scope laws have ever been repealed.
- No reported cases of patient harm with Ohio's last optometric scope
- Optometric complication rates of these procedures are the same as ophthalmology

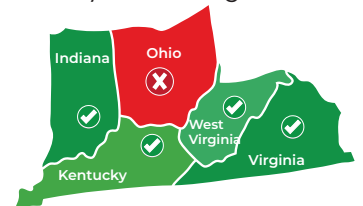
What **IS NOT** included in the Primary Eye Care Modernization Bill:



- ✘ **Cataract & Lasik surgery**
- ✘ **Any operating room eye surgery**

✘ **This bill is NOT the first of its kind.**

- Other states have been performing the procedures included in the bill for over 20 years.
- Border states Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia already have ability to perform many of these procedures.



✘ **This bill does NOT take business away from ophthalmologists. 4%**

- Procedures included in the Bill make up only 4% of total procedures performed by ophthalmology. The Bill frees up ophthalmologists' time for more complicated surgical procedures and reduces wait times for patients.



OHIO
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OPTOMETRIC EDUCATION AND CLINICAL PRACTICE



+ Optometry school is a postgraduate, 4-year/10 semester doctoral curriculum

that contains advanced coursework in the human body with specific emphasis on the diseases of the eye and related systemic conditions

+ Optometry coursework in anatomy, physiology, pathology, and pharmacology mirrors that of other health professions curricula.

+ Optometrists obtain more than **100 class hours in pharmacology**, equal to that of physicians and dentists.

+ Optometrists receive **over 10,000 hours** of education and training focused solely on the eye and the visual health system.



+ **Each student directly examines over 1800 patients** and has clinical externships in both advanced ocular disease clinics and at a Veteran's Administration Medical Center.

+ Optometry students also receive education and hands-on experience on ophthalmic procedures which include lasers and injections.

+ Passage of 3 separate parts of the National Board of Examiners is required for licensure in all states.

+ After graduating, many optometrists continue their training in a 1-2 year post doctoral residency in ocular disease or another subspecialty.



+ Consistent with other healthcare professions, optometrists also are required to have 50 hours of post doctoral education every 2 years to maintain licensure in Ohio.

+ The Ohio State University College of Optometry is the state's only optometric education program. It is consistently ranked among the **top programs in the nation** and annually produces around 65 new practitioners. Around 60% of Ohio optometrists are graduates of OSU.

+ Doctors of Optometry are primary eye care providers who **diagnose and treat eye disease** and vision disorders. They provide care for patients of all ages starting at birth.

+ Optometrists regularly diagnose and treat: glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, eye infections, eyelid disorders, age-related macular degeneration, retinal disorders, and cataracts.

+ Optometrists **prescribe medications**, such as topical and oral antibiotics, steroids, and Schedule II controlled substances.

+ Doctors of Optometry fit contact lenses, glasses and other optical prosthetic devices specific to a patient's eye and medical needs.



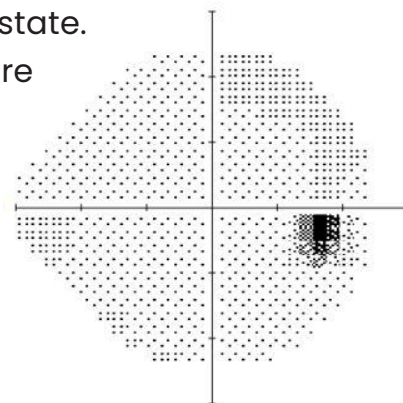
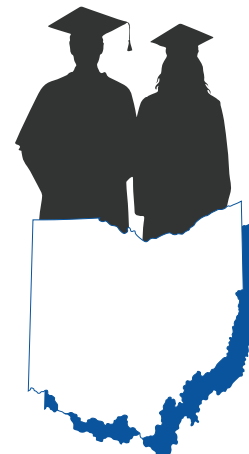
+ Optometrists are trained to perform pre- & post-operative care; remove foreign bodies; provide low vision care and vision therapy; and other specialized services and procedures.

WHY SB129 IS NEEDED FOR OHIO



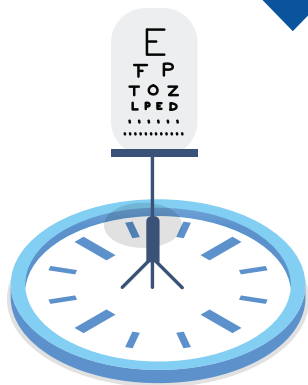
SB129 Will Help Ohio Maintain a Well-Trained Eyecare Workforce

- The legislation will bring Ohio in line with national standards currently taught in doctoral optometry programs.
- Aligns Ohio with scopes of practice in surrounding and similar states like Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia, Colorado, and Virginia.
- 71% of graduating optometrists report that a state's scope of practice is a factor in determining where to practice.
- Graduates often cite the inability to practice optometry to the full scope of their training as a primary reason for leaving the state.
- Optometrists graduating from OSU College of Optometry are leaving Ohio to practice in other states that allow them to practice to their highest level of training.



SB129 Will Improve Access to Care and Decrease Wait Times

- As our population ages, it is estimated that 30% more eye care will be necessary.
- Ophthalmology is experiencing stagnant growth in new providers and is also projected to have a 12% decline by 2035 as 50% of ophthalmologists are over the age of 50
- As experts in vision and eye care, optometrists are well-equipped to fill the need – optometrists offer more expertise in eye care than physician extenders.



SB129 Will Create a More Efficient, Team Approach to the Delivery of Care

- Modernization is focused on procedures that bog down many ophthalmology practices.
- While there is much overlap between the 2 eye professions, optometrists do not want to become ophthalmologists and perform in-operating room procedures.
- SB 129 allows for ONLY 3 in-office laser procedures and the ability to deliver local numbing medicine into just the eyelid to allow removal of benign lid lesions, which is less than 4% of the procedures ophthalmologists treat.

