## As Passed by the House

# 127th General Assembly Regular Session 2007-2008

Sub. H. B. No. 149

#### **Representatives Daniels, Strahorn**

Cosponsors: Representatives Stewart, J., Driehaus, Aslanides, Bolon, McGregor, J., Wolpert, Luckie, Gibbs, Hagan, R., Combs, Flowers, Healy, Setzer, Hagan, J., Lundy, Williams, S., Heard, Sykes, Widener, Hughes, Adams, Garrison, Uecker, Huffman, DeBose, Fessler, Distel, Blessing, Patton, Domenick, Fende, Bubp, Beatty, Collier, Peterson, Okey, Stewart, D., Foley, Boyd, Carmichael, Reinhard, Hite, Brown, Gerberry, Koziura, Miller, Sayre, Seitz, Ujvagi, Wachtmann, Webster, Zehringer

### A BILL

То	amend sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,	1
	4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 and to enact	2
	sections 4725.011, 4725.012, and 4725.091 of the	3
	Revised Code to modify the laws governing the	4
	State Board of Optometry and the practice of	5
	optometry, including the laws authorizing	6
	optometrists to administer and prescribe drugs.	7

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,	8
4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 be amended and sections 4725.011,	9
4725.012, and 4725.091 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	10
follows:	11

Sec. 4725.01. As used in this chapter:

(B) "Topical ocular pharmaceutical agents agent" means:

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authorizing the holder to practice optometry as provided in	132
division (A)(3) of this section.	133
Sec. 4725.011. A licensed optometrist who holds a topical	134
ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate is practicing within the	135
optometrist's scope of practice when the optometrist administers a	136
drug topically for evaluative purposes in the practice of	137
optometry as specified in division (A)(1) of section 4725.01 of	138
the Revised Code.	139
Sec. 4725.012. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, a	140
licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic pharmaceutical agents	141
certificate is practicing within the optometrist's scope of	142
practice when the optometrist administers or prescribes a drug for	143
purposes of diagnosis, treatment or prevention of injury, or	144
treatment or management of disease or any other abnormal condition	145
within or originating from the visual system. The optometrist's	146
scope of practice includes the topical administration of drugs	147
that may be administered by a licensed optometrist who holds a	148
topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate.	149
(B) A licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic	150
pharmaceutical agents certificate is not authorized to do any of	151
the following:	152
(1) Administer a drug by injection except as provided in	153
division (C) of this section;	154
(2) Administer or prescribe a controlled substance unless the	155
drug is a schedule III controlled substance authorized by the	156
board in rules adopted under section 4729.091 of the Revised Code.	157
(C) A licensed optometrist who holds a therapeutic	158
pharmaceutical agents certificate is authorized to perform the	159
following invasive procedures:	160
(1) Administration of a drug by injection for nurposes of	161

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to the acuity of the patient involved;	192
(3) Training and competency requirements that must be met by	193
the person administering the drugs;	194
(4) Other standards and procedures the board considers	195
relevant.	196
Sec. 4725.091. (A) The state board of optometry shall adopt	197
rules governing the authority of licensed optometrists to	198
administer and prescribe schedule III controlled substances under	199
a therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certificate. The rules shall	200
be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code and	201
in consultation with the state board of pharmacy.	202
(B) All of the following apply to the state board of	203
optometry in the adoption of rules under this section:	204
(1) The board shall not permit an optometrist to administer	205
or prescribe a schedule III controlled substance other than a drug	206
included in section 3719.41 of the Revised Code within the	207
schedule III narcotics-narcotic preparations category.	208
(2) The board shall limit the schedule III controlled	209
substances that optometrists may administer or prescribe to the	210
drugs that the board determines are appropriate for use in the	211
practice of optometry under a therapeutic pharmaceutical agents	212
<u>certificate</u> .	213
(3) With regard to prescribing schedule III controlled	214
substances, the board shall establish prescribing standards to be	215
followed by optometrists who hold therapeutic pharmaceutical	216
agents certificates. The board shall take into account the	217
prescribing standards that exist within the health care	218
marketplace and are used in other states that grant optometrists	219
the authority to prescribe drugs.	220
(4) The board shall establish standards and procedures	221

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continuing education must be completed during the twelve-month	253
period beginning on the first day of October and ending on the	254
last day of September. If the board receives notice from a	255
continuing education program indicating that an optometrist	256
completed the program after the last day of September, and the	257
optometrist wants to use the continuing education completed after	258
that day to renew the license that expires on the last day of	259
December of that year, the optometrist shall pay the penalty	260
specified under section 4725.34 of the Revised Code for late	261
completion of continuing education.	262
At least once annually, the board shall mail to each licensed	263
optometrist a list of courses approved in accordance with	264
standards prescribed by board rule. Upon the request of a licensed	265
optometrist, the executive director of the board shall supply a	266
list of additional courses that the board has approved subsequent	267
to the most recent mailing of the list of approved courses.	268
(C) $\underline{(1)}$ Annually, by not later than the first day of November,	269
the board shall mail to each licensed optometrist a notice	270
regarding license renewal and to each licensed optometrist who may	271
be eligible for renewal. The notice shall be sent to the	272
optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If the	273
board knows that the optometrist has completed the required	274
continuing optometric education for the year, the board may	275
include with the notice an application for license renewal. The	276
application shall be in such form and require such pertinent	277
professional biographical data as the board may require. An	278
optometrist seeking to continue to practice optometry shall file	279
the renewal application with the board. Filing the	280
(2) Filing a license renewal application with the board shall	281

serve as notice by the optometrist that the continuing optometric

 $rac{ extsf{If}}{ extsf{the}}$  the board finds that an optometrist has not completed the

education requirement has been successfully completed.  $\underline{\text{If}}$ 

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required continuing optometric education, the board shall	285
disapprove the optometrist's application. The board's disapproval	286
of renewal is effective without a hearing, unless a hearing is	287
requested pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. <del>The</del>	288
(3) The board shall refuse to accept an application for	289
renewal from any applicant whose license is not in good standing	290
or who is under disciplinary review pursuant to section 4725.19 of	291
the Revised Code. <del>Notice</del>	292
(4) Notice of an applicant's failure to qualify for renewal	293
shall be served upon the applicant by mail, which. The notice	294
shall be sent <del>on or before</del> <u>not later than</u> the fifteenth day of	295
November to the <u>applicant's last</u> address shown in the board's	296
records.	297
(D) In cases of certified illness or undue hardship, the	298
board may waive or defer for up to twelve months the requirement	299
of continuing optometric education, except that in such cases the	300
board may not waive or defer the continuing education in	301
pharmacology required to be completed by optometrists who hold	302
topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificates or therapeutic	303
pharmaceutical agents certificates. The board shall waive the	304
requirement of continuing optometric education for any optometrist	305
who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or who has	306
received an initial certificate of licensure during the nine-month	307
period which ended on the last day of September.	308
(E) The board shall approve all applications for renewal that	309
are not disapproved or refused under division (C) of this section.	310
An optometrist whose renewal application has been approved may	311
renew each certificate held by paying to the treasurer of state	312
the fees for renewal specified under section 4725.34 of the	313
Revised Code. On payment of all applicable fees, the board shall	314
issue a renewal of the optometrist's certificate of licensure,	315

topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate, and therapeutic

pharmaceutical agents certificate, as appropriate.	317
(F) A notice shall be sent to every licensed optometrist who	318
fails to file the renewal application provided under division (C)	319
of this section, at the optometrist's last address, at least one	320
month in advance of the last day of December, which is the date of	321
expiration. A second notice shall be sent Not later than the	322
fifteenth day of December, the board shall mail a second notice	323
regarding license renewal to each licensed optometrist who may be	324
eligible for renewal but did not respond to the notice sent under	325
division (C)(1) of this section. The notice shall be sent to the	326
optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If an	327
optometrist fails to file a renewal application after the second	328
notice is sent, the board shall send a third notice regarding	329
license renewal prior to any action under division (I) of this	330
section to classify the optometrist's certificates as $delinquent_{ au}$	331
to every optometrist failing to respond to the preceding notice.	332
(G) The failure of an optometrist to apply for license	333
renewal or the failure to pay the applicable annual renewal fees	334
on or before the date of expiration, shall automatically work a	335
forfeiture of the optometrist's authority to practice optometry in	336
this state.	337
(H) The board shall accept renewal applications and renewal	338
fees that are submitted from the first day of January to the last	339
day of April of the year next succeeding the date of expiration.	340
An individual who submits such a late renewal application or fee	341
shall pay the late renewal fee specified in section 4725.34 of the	342
Revised Code.	343
(I)(1) If the certificates issued by the board to an	344
individual have expired and the individual has not filed a	345
complete application during the late renewal period, the	346
individual's certificates shall be classified in the board's	347
records as delinquent.	348

(2) Any optometrist subject to delinquent classification may	349
submit a written application to the board for reinstatement. For	350
reinstatement to occur, the applicant must meet all of the	351
following conditions:	352
(a) Submit to the board evidence of compliance with board	353
rules requiring continuing optometric education in a sufficient	354
number of hours to make up for any delinquent compliance;	355
(b) Pay the renewal fees for the year in which application	356
for reinstatement is made and the reinstatement fee specified	357
under division (A)(8) of section 4725.34 of the Revised Code;	358
(c) Pass all or part of the licensing examination accepted by	359
the board under section 4725.11 of the Revised Code as the board	360
considers appropriate to determine whether the application for	361
reinstatement should be approved;	362
(d) If the applicant has been practicing optometry in another	363
state or country, submit evidence that the applicant's license to	364
practice optometry in the other state or country is in good	365
standing.	366
(3) The board shall approve an application for reinstatement	367
if the conditions specified in division (I)(2) of this section are	368
met. An optometrist who receives reinstatement is subject to the	369
continuing education requirements specified under division (B) of	370
this section for the year in which reinstatement occurs.	371
Sec. 4725.23. (A) The state board of optometry shall	372
investigate evidence that appears to show that a person has	373
violated any provision of sections 4725.01 to 4725.34 of the	374
Revised Code or any rule adopted under those sections.	375
Investigations of alleged violations shall be supervised by the	376
member of the board appointed by the board to act as the	377
supervising member of investigations. The supervising member shall	378

not participate in the final vote that occurs in an adjudication 379 of the case.

(B) In investigating a possible violation, the board may 381 administer oaths, order the taking of depositions, issue 382 subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and production 383 of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony. A 384 subpoena for patient record information shall not be issued 385 without consultation with the attorney general's office and 386 approval of the secretary of the board and the board's supervising 387 member of investigations. Before issuance of a subpoena for 388 patient record information, the secretary and supervising member 389 shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that 390 the complaint filed alleges a violation of sections 4725.01 to 391 4725.34 of the Revised Code or any rule adopted under those 392 sections and that the records sought are relevant to the alleged 393 violation and material to the investigation. The subpoena may 394 apply only to records that cover a reasonable period of time 395 surrounding the alleged violation. 396

On failure to comply with any subpoena issued by the board 397 and after reasonable notice to the person being subpoenaed, the 398 board may move for an order compelling the production of persons 399 or records pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure. 400

A subpoena issued by the board may be served by a sheriff, 401 the sheriff's deputy, or a board employee designated by the board. 402 Service of a subpoena issued by the board may be made by 403 delivering a copy of the subpoena to the person named therein, 404 reading it to the person, or leaving it at the person's usual 405 place of residence. When the person being served is an optometrist 406 licensed under by this chapter, service of the subpoena may be 407 made by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt 408 requested, and the subpoena shall be deemed served on the date 409 delivery is made or the date the optometrist refuses to accept 410

delivery.	411
Each witness who appears before the board in obedience to a	412
subpoena shall receive the fees and mileage provided for witnesses	413
in civil cases in the courts of common pleas.	414
(C) Information received by the board pursuant to an	415
investigation is confidential and not subject to discovery in any	416
civil action.	417
The board shall conduct all investigations and proceedings in	418
a manner that protects the confidentiality of patients and persons	419
who file complaints with the board. The board shall not make	420
public the names or any other identifying information about	421
patients or complainants unless proper consent is given.	422
The board may share any information it receives pursuant to	423
an investigation, including patient records and patient record	424
information, with other licensing boards and governmental agencies	425
that are investigating alleged professional misconduct and with	426
law enforcement agencies and other governmental agencies that are	427
investigating or prosecuting alleged criminal offenses. A board or	428
agency that receives the information shall comply with the same	429
requirements regarding confidentiality as those with which the	430
state board of optometry must comply, notwithstanding any	431
conflicting provision of the Revised Code or procedure of the	432
board or agency that applies when the board or agency is dealing	433
with other information in its possession. The information may be	434
admitted into evidence in a criminal trial in accordance with the	435
Rules of Evidence, but the court shall require that appropriate	436
measures are taken to ensure that confidentiality is maintained	437
with respect to any part of the information that contains names or	438
other identifying information about persons whose confidentiality	439
was protected by the state board of optometry when the information	440
was in the board's possession. Measures to ensure confidentiality	441
that may be taken by the court include sealing its records or	442

deleting specific information from its records.	443
Sec. 4725.26. Division (A) of section 4725.02 of the Revised	444
Code does not apply to the following:	445
(A) Physicians authorized to practice medicine and surgery or	446
osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. of the	447
Revised Code;	448
(B) Persons who sell optical accessories but do not assume to	449
adapt them to the eye, and neither practice nor profess to	450
practice optometry;	451
(C) An instructor in a school of optometry that is located in	452
this state and approved by the state board of optometry under	453
section 4725.10 of the Revised Code who holds a valid current	454
license to practice optometry from a licensing body in another	455
jurisdiction and limits the practice of optometry to the	456
instruction of students enrolled in the school.	457
(D) A student at enrolled in a school of optometry, located	458
in this or another state and approved by the board under section	459
4725.10 of the Revised Code, while enrolled the student is	460
participating in this state in an optometry training program and	461
acting provided or sponsored by the school, if the student acts	462
under the direct, personal supervision and control of an	463
optometrist licensed by the board or authorized to practice	464
pursuant to division (C) of this section.	465
(E) An individual who is licensed or otherwise specifically	466
authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an activity that is	467
included in the practice of optometry.	468
(F) An individual who is not licensed or otherwise	469
specifically authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an	470
activity that is included in the practice of optometry, but is	471
acting pursuant to the rules for delegation of optometric tasks	472

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(3) In the case of contact lenses, whether the price applies	502
to rigid or soft lenses and whether there is an additional charge	503
related to the fitting and determination of the type of contact	504
lenses to be worn that is not included in the price of the eye	505
examination.	506
(E) The state board of optometry shall not adopt any rule	507
that restricts the right to advertise as permitted by division (D)	508
of this section.	509
(F) Any municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation	510
or any township resolution that conflicts with a supplier's right	511
to advertise as permitted by division (D) of this section is	512
superseded by division (D) of this section and is invalid. A	513
municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation or a township	514
resolution conflicts with division (D) of this section if it	515
restricts a supplier's right to advertise as permitted by division	516
(D) of this section.	517
Sec. 4731.44. (A) As used in this section, "supplier" has the	518
same meaning as in section 4725.28 of the Revised Code.	519
(B) An individual authorized under this chapter to practice	520
medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery, on	521
completion of a vision examination and diagnosis, shall give each	522
patient for whom the individual prescribes any vision correcting	523
item, device, or procedure, one copy of the prescription, without	524
additional charge to the patient. The prescription shall include	525
the following:	526
(1) The date of its issuance;	527
(2) Sufficient information to enable the patient to obtain	528
from the supplier of the patient's choice, the vision correcting	529
item, device, or procedure that has been prescribed:	530
(3) In the case of contact lenses, all information specified	531

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resolution conflicts with division (D) of this section if it	563
restricts a supplier's right to advertise as permitted by division	564
(D) of this section.	565
Section 2. That existing sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16,	566
4725.23, 4725.26, 4725.28, and 4731.44 of the Revised Code are	567
hereby repealed.	568