## As Passed by the Senate

## 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 Senators Coughlin, Gardner, Miller, D., Morano, Mumper, Seitz, Austria, Cates, Fedor, Grendell, Harris, Niehaus, Padgett, Roberts, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schuler, Schuring, Spada, Stivers, Wilson, Faber, Carey

## A BILL

Го	amend sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,	1
	4725.26, 4725.28, 4725.40, and 4731.44 and to	2
	enact sections 4725.011 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
	and to require the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board	8
	to regulate the dispensing of cosmetic contact	9
	lenses	1.0

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

38

39

40

following purposes÷

condition of the visual system;

Section 1. That sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16, 4725.23,	11
4725.26, 4725.28, 4725.40, and 4731.44 be amended and sections	12
4725.011 and 4725.091 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	13
follows:	14
Sec. 4725.01. As used in this chapter:	15
(A)(1) The "practice of optometry" means the application of	16
optical principles, through technical methods and devices, in the	17
examination of human eyes for the purpose of ascertaining	18
departures from the normal, measuring their functional powers,	19
adapting optical accessories for the aid thereof, and detecting	20
ocular abnormalities that may be evidence of disease, pathology,	21
or injury.	22
(2) In the case of a licensed optometrist who holds a topical	23
ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate, the "practice of	24
optometry" has the same meaning as in division (A)(1) of this	25
section, except that it also includes administering topical ocular	26
pharmaceutical agents for the purposes set forth in division	27
(A)(1) of this section.	28
(3) In the case of a licensed optometrist who holds a	29
therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certificate, the "practice of	30
optometry" has the same meaning as in divisions division (A)(1)	31
and (2) of this section, except that it also includes employing	32
all of the following:	33
(a) Employing, applying, administering, and prescribing	34
instruments, devices, and procedures, other than invasive	35
procedures, and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the	36

(a) Examination of examination, investigation, diagnosis,

treatment, or prevention of any disease, injury, or other abnormal

used for evaluative purposes has been established by the federal

Page 4

Sub. H. B. No. 149

As Passed by the Senate

Sub. H. B. No. 149

marketplace.	251
(4) The board shall establish standards and procedures for	252
employing, applying, administering, and prescribing schedule III	253
controlled substances under a therapeutic pharmaceutical agents	254
certificate by taking into consideration and examining issues that	255
include the appropriate length of drug therapy, appropriate	256
standards for drug treatment, necessary monitoring systems, and	257
any other factors the board considers relevant.	258
Sec. 4725.16. (A) Each certificate of licensure, topical	259
ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate, and therapeutic	260
pharmaceutical agents certificate issued by the state board of	261
optometry shall expire annually on the last day of December, and	262
may be renewed in accordance with this section and the standard	263
renewal procedure established under Chapter 4745. of the Revised	264
Code.	265
An optometrist seeking to continue to practice optometry	266
shall file with the board an application for license renewal. The	267
application shall be in such form and require such pertinent	268
professional biographical data as the board may require.	269
(B) All licensed optometrists shall annually complete	270
continuing education in subjects relating to the practice of	271
optometry, to the end that the utilization and application of new	272
techniques, scientific and clinical advances, and the achievements	273
of research will assure comprehensive care to the public. The	274
board shall prescribe by rule the continuing optometric education	275
that licensed optometrists must complete. The length of study	276
shall be determined by the board but shall be not less than six	277
nor more than twenty-five clock hours each year, except that the	278
board shall prescribe an additional five including ten clock hours	279
of instruction in pharmacology to be completed by all licensed	280
optometrists who hold topical ocular pharmaceutical agents	281

certificates or therapeutic pharmaceutical agents certificates.	282
Unless the continuing education required under this division	283
is waived or deferred under division (D) of this section, the	284
continuing education must be completed during the twelve-month	285
period beginning on the first day of October and ending on the	286
last day of September. If the board receives notice from a	287
continuing education program indicating that an optometrist	288
completed the program after the last day of September, and the	289
optometrist wants to use the continuing education completed after	290
that day to renew the license that expires on the last day of	291
December of that year, the optometrist shall pay the penalty	292
specified under section 4725.34 of the Revised Code for late	293
completion of continuing education.	294
At least once annually, the board shall mail to each licensed	295
optometrist a list of courses approved in accordance with	296
standards prescribed by board rule. Upon the request of a licensed	297
optometrist, the executive director of the board shall supply a	298
list of additional courses that the board has approved subsequent	299
to the most recent mailing of the list of approved courses.	300
(C) $(1)$ Annually, by not later than the first day of November,	301
the board shall mail to each licensed optometrist a notice	302
regarding license renewal and to each licensed optometrist who may	303
be eligible for renewal. The notice shall be sent to the	304
optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If the	305
board knows that the optometrist has completed the required	306
continuing optometric education for the year, the board may	307
include with the notice an application for license renewal. $\overline{\mbox{\scriptsize The}}$	308
application shall be in such form and require such pertinent	309
professional biographical data as the board may require. An	310
optometrist seeking to continue to practice optometry shall file	311
the renewal application with the board. Filing the	312

(2) Filing a license renewal application with the board shall

serve as notice by the optometrist that the continuing optometric	314
education requirement has been successfully completed. <u>If</u>	315
## the board finds that an optometrist has not completed the	316
required continuing optometric education, the board shall	317
disapprove the optometrist's application. The board's disapproval	318
of renewal is effective without a hearing, unless a hearing is	319
requested pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. The	320
(3) The board shall refuse to accept an application for	321
renewal from any applicant whose license is not in good standing	322
or who is under disciplinary review pursuant to section 4725.19 of	323
the Revised Code. Notice	324
(4) Notice of an applicant's failure to qualify for renewal	325
shall be served upon the applicant by mail, which. The notice	326
shall be sent on or before not later than the fifteenth day of	327
November to the <u>applicant's last</u> address shown in the board's	328
records.	329
(D) In cases of certified illness or undue hardship, the	330
board may waive or defer for up to twelve months the requirement	331
of continuing optometric education, except that in such cases the	332
board may not waive or defer the continuing education in	333
pharmacology required to be completed by optometrists who hold	334
topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificates or therapeutic	335
pharmaceutical agents certificates. The board shall waive the	336
requirement of continuing optometric education for any optometrist	337
who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or who has	338
received an initial certificate of licensure during the nine-month	339
period which ended on the last day of September.	340
(E) The board shall approve all applications for renewal that	341
are not disapproved or refused under division (C) of this section.	342
An optometrist whose renewal application has been approved may	343
renew each certificate held by paying to the treasurer of state	344

the fees for renewal specified under section 4725.34 of the

Revised Code. On payment of all applicable fees, the board shall
issue a renewal of the optometrist's certificate of licensure,
topical ocular pharmaceutical agents certificate, and therapeutic
pharmaceutical agents certificate, as appropriate.

349

- (F) A notice shall be sent to every licensed optometrist who fails to file the renewal application provided under division (C) of this section, at the optometrist's last address, at least one month in advance of the last day of December, which is the date of expiration. A second notice shall be sent Not later than the fifteenth day of December, the board shall mail a second notice regarding license renewal to each licensed optometrist who may be eligible for renewal but did not respond to the notice sent under division (C)(1) of this section. The notice shall be sent to the optometrist's last address shown in the board's records. If an optometrist fails to file a renewal application after the second notice is sent, the board shall send a third notice regarding license renewal prior to any action under division (I) of this section to classify the optometrist's certificates as delinquent, to every optometrist failing to respond to the preceding notice.
- (G) The failure of an optometrist to apply for license renewal or the failure to pay the applicable annual renewal fees on or before the date of expiration, shall automatically work a forfeiture of the optometrist's authority to practice optometry in this state.
- (H) The board shall accept renewal applications and renewal 370 fees that are submitted from the first day of January to the last 371 day of April of the year next succeeding the date of expiration. 372 An individual who submits such a late renewal application or fee 373 shall pay the late renewal fee specified in section 4725.34 of the 374 Revised Code.
  - (I)(1) If the certificates issued by the board to an

Revised Code or any rule adopted under those sections.	407
Investigations of alleged violations shall be supervised by the	408
member of the board appointed by the board to act as the	409
supervising member of investigations. The supervising member shall	410
not participate in the final vote that occurs in an adjudication	411
of the case.	412

(B) In investigating a possible violation, the board may 413 administer oaths, order the taking of depositions, issue 414 subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and production 415 of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony. A 416 subpoena for patient record information shall not be issued 417 without consultation with the attorney general's office and 418 approval of the secretary of the board and the board's supervising 419 member of investigations. Before issuance of a subpoena for 420 patient record information, the secretary and supervising member 421 shall determine whether there is probable cause to believe that 422 the complaint filed alleges a violation of sections 4725.01 to 423 4725.34 of the Revised Code or any rule adopted under those 424 sections and that the records sought are relevant to the alleged 425 violation and material to the investigation. The subpoena may 426 apply only to records that cover a reasonable period of time 427 surrounding the alleged violation. 428

On failure to comply with any subpoena issued by the board 429 and after reasonable notice to the person being subpoenaed, the 430 board may move for an order compelling the production of persons 431 or records pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure. 432

A subpoena issued by the board may be served by a sheriff, 433 the sheriff's deputy, or a board employee designated by the board. 434 Service of a subpoena issued by the board may be made by 435 delivering a copy of the subpoena to the person named therein, 436 reading it to the person, or leaving it at the person's usual 437 place of residence. When the person being served is an optometrist 438

licensed under <del>by</del> this chapter, service of the subpoena may be	439
made by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt	440
requested, and the subpoena shall be deemed served on the date	441
delivery is made or the date the optometrist refuses to accept	442
delivery.	443

Each witness who appears before the board in obedience to a 444 subpoena shall receive the fees and mileage provided for witnesses 445 in civil cases in the courts of common pleas. 446

(C) Information received by the board pursuant to an 447 investigation is confidential and not subject to discovery in any 448 civil action. 449

The board shall conduct all investigations and proceedings in

a manner that protects the confidentiality of patients and persons

who file complaints with the board. The board shall not make

public the names or any other identifying information about

patients or complainants unless proper consent is given.

450

The board may share any information it receives pursuant to 455 an investigation, including patient records and patient record 456 information, with other licensing boards and governmental agencies 457 that are investigating alleged professional misconduct and with 458 law enforcement agencies and other governmental agencies that are 459 investigating or prosecuting alleged criminal offenses. A board or 460 agency that receives the information shall comply with the same 461 requirements regarding confidentiality as those with which the 462 state board of optometry must comply, notwithstanding any 463 conflicting provision of the Revised Code or procedure of the 464 board or agency that applies when the board or agency is dealing 465 with other information in its possession. The information may be 466 admitted into evidence in a criminal trial in accordance with the 467 Rules of Evidence, but the court shall require that appropriate 468 measures are taken to ensure that confidentiality is maintained 469 with respect to any part of the information that contains names or 470

other identifying information about persons whose confidentiality	471
was protected by the state board of optometry when the information	472
was in the board's possession. Measures to ensure confidentiality	473
that may be taken by the court include sealing its records or	474
deleting specific information from its records.	475
Sec. 4725.26. Division (A) of section 4725.02 of the Revised	476
Code does not apply to the following:	477
(A) Physicians authorized to practice medicine and surgery or	478
osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. of the	479
Revised Code;	480
(B) Persons who sell optical accessories but do not assume to	481
adapt them to the eye, and neither practice nor profess to	482
practice optometry;	483
(C) An instructor in a school of optometry that is located in	484
this state and approved by the state board of optometry under	485
section 4725.10 of the Revised Code who holds a valid current	486
license to practice optometry from a licensing body in another	487
jurisdiction and limits the practice of optometry to the	488
instruction of students enrolled in the school.	489
(D) A student at enrolled in a school of optometry, located	490
in this <u>or another</u> state and approved by the board under section	491
4725.10 of the Revised Code, while enrolled the student is	492
participating in this state in an optometry training program and	493
acting provided or sponsored by the school, if the student acts	494
under the direct, personal supervision and control of an	495
optometrist licensed by the board or authorized to practice	496
pursuant to division (C) of this section.	497
(E) An individual who is licensed or otherwise specifically	498
authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an activity that is	499

included in the practice of optometry.

(F) An individual who is not licensed or otherwise	501
specifically authorized by the Revised Code to engage in an	502
activity that is included in the practice of optometry, but is	503
acting pursuant to the rules for delegation of optometric tasks	504
adopted under section 4725.09 of the Revised Code.	505
Sec. 4725.28. (A) As used in this section, "supplier" means	506
any person who prepares or sells optical accessories or other	507
vision correcting items, devices, or procedures.	508
(B) A licensed optometrist, on completion of a vision	509
examination and diagnosis, shall give each patient for whom the	510
optometrist prescribes any vision correcting item, device, or	511
procedure, one copy of the prescription, without additional charge	512
to the patient. The prescription shall include the following:	513
(1) The date of its issuance;	514
(2) Sufficient information to enable the patient to obtain	515
from the supplier of the patient's choice, the optical accessory	516
or other vision correcting item, device, or procedure that has	517
been prescribed;	518
(3) In the case of contact lenses, all information specified	519
as part of a contact lens prescription, as defined in the	520
"Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act," 117 Stat. 2024 (2003),	521
<u>15 U.S.C. 7610</u> .	522
(C) Any supplier who fills a prescription for contact lenses	523
furnished by an optometrist shall furnish the patient with written	524
recommendations to return to the prescribing optometrist for	525
evaluation of the contact lens fitting.	526
(D) Any supplier, including an optometrist who is a supplier,	527
may advertise to inform the general public of the price that the	528
supplier charges for any vision correcting item, device, or	529

procedure. Any such advertisement shall specify the following:

(2) Contact lenses, regardless of whether they address visual

dispensing optician authorized to engage in the dispensing of

restricts the right to advertise as permitted by division (D) of

this section.

648

Sub. H. B. No. 149 As Passed by the Senate	
(F) Any municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation	650
or any township resolution that conflicts with a supplier's right	651
to advertise as permitted by division (D) of this section is	652
superseded by division (D) of this section and is invalid. A	653
municipal corporation code, ordinance, or regulation or a township	654
resolution conflicts with division (D) of this section if it	655
restricts a supplier's right to advertise as permitted by division	656
(D) of this section.	657
Section 2. That existing sections 4725.01, 4725.09, 4725.16,	658
4725.23, 4725.26, 4725.28, 4725.40, and 4731.44 of the Revised	659
Code are hereby repealed.	660