

LEGAL SERVICES

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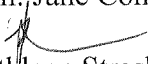
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
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MEMORANDUM

March 4, 2015

SUBJECT: Practice of Optometry
(SB 55; Work Order No. 29-LS0524\E)

TO: Senator Cathy Giessel
Attn: Jane Conway

FROM: 
Kathleen Strasbaugh
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill. Please note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill and the bill itself is the best statement of its contents. If you would like an interpretation of the bill as it may apply to a particular set of circumstances, please advise.

Section 1 requires the Board of Examiners in Optometry (board) to adopt regulations governing prescription and use of pharmaceutical agents.

Section 2 amends AS 08.72.181(d) by removing specified hours and period of continuing education requirements for the renewal of an optometrist's license but retains delegation of those requirements to the board in regulation.

Section 3 repeals and reenacts AS 08.72.272(a) to provide that pharmaceutical agents, including controlled substances, may be used by a licensed optometrist if consistent with standards adopted by the board and any limitations on practice under section 5 of the bill.

Section 4 reenacts and modifies the prohibition by a licensee to perform an intravitreal injection.

Section 5 provides that a licensee may perform only services within the licensee's training and experience as provided by board regulation.

Section 6 revises the definition of optometry.

Section 7 adds a definition of "invasive surgery."

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