



Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Health & Social Services Committee Chair

*Serving House District 16: College Gate, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, & Reflection Lake
Committee Member: Education, Energy, Military & Veterans Affairs, Legislative Budget & Audit*

Sectional Analysis

House Bill 103

Optometry & Optometrists

Section 1

AS.08.72.050 (4)(6) updates very old statutes to indicate that regulations shall be adopted to govern the current prescription and use of pharmaceutical agents; and develop uniform standards for the practice of optometry.

Section 2

AS.08.72.060 (c)(4) the board shall publish advisory opinions regarding whether optometry practice procedures comply with acceptable standards of the practice of optometry provided in statute.

Section 3

AS 08.72.181(d) moves the continuing education (CE) requirements back into regulation, as desired by the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development. Continuing education is still required by current statute, but the hours and subjects will be determined by the board.

Section 4

AS 08.72.272(a) clarifies the current statute for the board to regulate pharmaceutical agent prescription including standards and limitations on practice determined by the board.

Section 5

AS 08.72.278 Limitation on practice adds a new section that sets limitations on services, ensuring that the board may not authorize any procedure beyond the scope of the licensee's education and experience.

Section 6

AS 08.72.300(3) updates the optometry definition to reflect current practice.

Section 7

Effective date for Section 2. This is because (3) of Section 2 was added to statute in 2016 via Senate Bill 74, the Medicaid Reform bill, and it had the effective date of July 2017, so (4) is written to comply with that date as well. (per Legislative Drafting)

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