

David Scott

From: victoria blower <victoria_blower@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:47 PM
To: Sen. Donny Olson
Subject: SB 162

Dear Senator Olsen,

As a member of the Alaska optometric community of health care providers I want thank you for sponsoring SB 162.

As you know, this act authorizes licensed optometrists to continue utilizing a medication in our current arsenal of medications to treat our patients when temporary analgesia is needed for acute ocular pain. This medication, hydrocodone, when used for ocular care is used for short course treatment of 2-4 days when aspirin or other NSAIDs are not adequate for pain management. In my own practice it is rare that I need to utilize something other than a Schedule III medication (which currently includes hydrocodone) for controlling ocular pain. However, with the proposed FDA rescheduling of the medication to Schedule II it will no longer be available for my patients when needed. It would be a shame to lose this very effective medication for pain control in the case of abrasions, post-surgical foreign body removal and other ocular injuries.

SB 162 will help the optometric community of health care providers continue to responsibly treat our patients as we have for years.

Sincerely,
Victoria Blower, OD

Victoria Blower, O.D.
Accurate Vision Clinic
Care as Personal as it is Effective
207 E. Northern Lights Blvd
Suite 101
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-272-9800
victoria_blower@hotmail.com