

March 6, 2016

Sent to the members of Senate L&C:

Please support SB 55.

This thoughtful legislation, sponsored by Vice-Chair Giessel, will update Alaska Optometry statutes by allowing more Board autonomy. This will allow the Board of Optometry more flexibility with technological advancement while ensuring public safety. This will also bring Alaska Optometry statutes more in line with dentistry and nurse practitioners.

SB 55 is not about practice expansion. It specifically restricts numerous invasive procedures. Sadly, opponents of SB 55 have resorted to misleading fear mongering in an effort to defeat this worthwhile legislation.

As a member of the Alaska Board of Optometry, I personally take my oath to protect and serve the citizens of Alaska very seriously. The Board is comprised of very experienced, conservative and seasoned practitioners as well as a public member, who, with oversight from the Alaska Attorney General's office, can be completely trusted to fulfill the primary mission of public protection.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for your support.

Sincerely,

Damien R. Delzer, O.D.
Member, Alaska Board of Examiners in Optometry
Senior Examiner, National Board of Examiners in Optometry
Diplomate, American Board of Optometry
Course Reviewer, Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry