

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel

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Sectional Analysis

CS SB 36 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 standards for the practice of optometry.

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)