

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel Senate District N

Sectional Analysis

SB 36 Optometry & Optometrists

Section 1

AS.08.72.050 allows the board to continue to adopt regulations, updated to current practice.

Section 2

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 as with other professions. The current regulations require more CE hours than the statute subsection deleted by this bill.

Section 3

AS 08.72.272(a) clarifies the current statute for the board to determine prescribed drug schedules, including standards and limitations on practice determined by the board.

Section 4

AS 08.72 sets limitations on practice, ensuring that no licensee may perform any procedure beyond the scope of the licensee's education, training, and experience as established by the board. This allows for future new and improved diagnostic and therapeutic procedures as determined by the board, while not having to return to the legislature for every new technological advance.

Section 5

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