

March 25, 2024

House Health and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 106  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,

As a local Optometrist practicing in Alaska for over 28 years, I am contacting you in SUPPORT for House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulations regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

This legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service, as many other medical professionals already do, to assure continued delivery of complete eyecare for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient satisfying manner.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheryl Lenter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sheryl Lenter, OD, FCOVDR

**From:** [Benjamin Crawford OD](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Justin Ruffridge](#)  
**Subject:** In support of HB 309  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 19, 2024 5:17:33 PM

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Dear Representative Ruffridge,

I am a private practice optometrist in Anchorage and former president of the Alaska Optometric Association. Thank you for your support of optometry and for introducing House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

This is common sense legislation that will allow the Alaska Board of Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric services. This will assure continued delivery of quality care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective way.

Again, thank you for your support,

Benjamin Crawford, O.D.

Accurate Vision Clinic

***#yourvisionourfocus***

[REDACTED]

Anchorage, AK 99503

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Jessica Giese](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Justin Ruffridge](#)  
**Subject:** Support HB309  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 4:34:49 PM

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Dear Representative Ruffridge,

Thank you for your support of optometry and for introducing House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309. This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.

Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Jessica Giese, O.D.

**From:** [Ladd Nolin](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Justin Ruffridge](#)  
**Subject:** HB309  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 4:53:01 PM

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Representative Justin Ruffridge  
Vice-Chair House Health and Social Services  
State Capitol Room104  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Ruffridge,

Thank you for your support of optometry and for introducing House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309. This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.

Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Ladd Nolin, OD

**From:** [Jackie Lesniak](#)  
**To:** [House Health and Social Services](#)  
**Cc:** [James Sexton](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB 309  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:33:10 AM

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Jacqueline Lesniak, OD  
SSMH Optometry Department  
[REDACTED]  
Utqiagvik, AK 99723

March 26, 2024

House Health and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 106  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

This simple, straightforward, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of quality and appropriate care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner. This will ensure the appropriate services are reviewed and regulated by those that understand and work within the profession.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this manner.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Lesniak, OD

**From:** [Jill Matheson](#)  
**To:** [House Health and Social Services](#)  
**Cc:** [James Sexton](#)  
**Subject:** HB 309  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 8:43:04 AM

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Good Morning,

Just a short email to ask for your support for HB 309 to allow the Optometry Board to set regulations for delegation of our services to our technicians and assistants.

Thank you,

Dr. Jill

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Jill Geering Matheson, OD  
Alaska Vision Center, Inc.

[REDACTED]  
Juneau, AK 99801  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Ladd Nolin](#)  
**To:** [House Health and Social Services](#)  
**Cc:** [James Sexton](#)  
**Subject:** HB309  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 12:58:07 PM

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House Health and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 106  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,  
I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services. This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.  
Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Ladd Nolin, OD

# Alaska Optometric Association

██████████ Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Telephone: ██████████



Affiliate

American Optometric  
Association

March 6, 2024

Representative Justin Ruffridge  
Vice-Chair House Health and Social Services  
State Capitol Room 104  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Ruffridge,

The Alaska Optometric Association strongly supports House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

For decades, optometric practice has effectively utilized technicians and assistants to perform basic pre-testing, screening evaluations, initial patient histories, as well as technical components of ancillary tests. This is universally done throughout Alaska and all other states and is also the standard for virtually all healthcare professionals.

Other healthcare professions in Alaska have resolved this issue by incorporating delegation authority into statute including Medicine, Osteopathy, Podiatry, Physician Assistants (08.64.106), Dentistry (08.36.346), Veterinary Medicine (08.98.050 (9,B)), Pharmacy(08.80.030,(9)), and Chiropractic (08.20.168).

Technicians and assistants allow for far greater clinic efficiency and optimal utilization of the doctor's time and thus greatly improves patient access to care. This legislation will have no associated cost to insurers or patients and the use of technicians and assistants mitigates costs for the patients and their insurers.

It was only through a recent research opinion by the Department of Law regarding a telemedicine project that it was determined the Optometry Statute lacked sufficient language to grant the Board the authority to regulate task delegation.

This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for the residents in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.

Sincerely,

Laura Kompkoff, O.D., President, Alaska Optometric Association

Laura Kompkoff, O.D.  
*President*

Damien Delzer, O.D.  
*President –Elect*

Sarah Bixby-DuBois, O.D.  
*Vice President*

Andrea Eberle, O.D.  
*Secretary*

Craig Begin, O.D.  
*Treasurer*

Ben Crawford, O.D.  
*Immediate Past  
President*

Damien R. Delzer, O.D., DiplABO/President-elect, Alaska Optometric Association

**From:** [craig begin](#)  
**To:** [House Health and Social Services](#); [James Sexton](#)  
**Subject:** Support for House Bill 309  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 9:55:07 AM

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## ***Dr. Craig Bégin and Associates, LLC***

[REDACTED]  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
[REDACTED]

To the House Health and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 106  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.

Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Craig Begin OD

House Health and Social Services Committee  
Alaska State Capitol Room 106  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Members of the House Health and Social Services Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 309, which grants the Alaska Board of Optometry the authority to draft regulation regarding the delegation of routine optometric services.

This simple, thoughtful, and noncontroversial legislation will allow the Board of Examiners in Optometry to regulate delegation of routine optometric service to assure continued delivery of care for Alaskans in the most cost-effective and patient centric manner.

Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

David J. Holdgrafer, O.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Holdgrafer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.