

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 82

5 By: Senator D. Sullivan
6 By: Representative Womack
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF "OPHTHALMIC
10 DISPENSING" TO INCLUDE THE DISPENSING OF CONTACT
11 LENSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF "OPHTHALMIC
16 DISPENSING" TO INCLUDE THE DISPENSING OF
17 CONTACT LENSES.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-89-102(4), concerning the definition of
23 "ophthalmic dispensing", is amended to read as follows:

24 (4)(A) "Ophthalmic dispensing" means the preparation of
25 laboratory work orders, verification, and dispensing of spectacle lenses,
26 spectacles, eyeglasses, or parts thereof, or contact lenses, to the intended
27 wearer on a written prescription from a licensed physician skilled in disease
28 of the eye or from a licensed optometrist.

29 (B) "~~Ophthalmic~~ Ophthalmic dispensing" ~~shall include~~
30 includes:

31 (i) The measuring, fitting, adapting, and adjusting
32 of spectacle lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, or parts thereof to the human
33 face;

34 (ii) The preparation and delivery of work orders to
35 laboratory technicians engaged in grinding lenses and fabrication of eyewear;

36 (iii) The verification of the quality of finished



1 spectacle lenses, spectacles, or eyeglasses; ~~and~~

2 (iv) The adjustment or repair of spectacle frames to
3 the human face; and

4 (v) The dispensing, selling, or supplying of contact
5 lenses by a licensed dispensing optician.

6 (C) The prescribing, adapting, fitting, duplicating,
7 ~~dispensing, or~~ modifying, ~~selling, or supplying~~ of contact lenses for or to
8 the human eye is specifically excluded;

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10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-89-104(d), concerning the prohibition of
11 the practice of optometry or medicine by licensed dispensing opticians, is
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (d) The prescribing, adapting, fitting, duplicating, ~~dispensing, or~~
14 ~~modifying, selling, or supplying~~ of contact lenses for or to the human eye is
15 specifically prohibited except when done by a licensed optometrist or
16 licensed physician skilled in disease of the eye.

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