

March 5, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Public Health Committee

FR: Brian Lynch, O.D.
Connecticut Association of Optometrists
Legislative Committee Chair

RE: Drafting Errors in HB 7159

I wanted to bring to your attention that HB 7159 contains two drafting errors.

- Line 25 should read: “foreign bodies of the cornea [corneal epithelium that have not perforated bowman’s membrane,] . . .
- In Line 29, the closed bracket should appear after the semi-colon.

The bill, as drafted, repeals our current authority to use Punctal Plugs. Clearly, this was not the intent of the legislation.

18 nonemergency oral glaucoma agents but] including controlled
 19 substances under schedules II, III, IV and V in accordance with section
 20 21a-252, subject to the limitations of subsection (f) of this section
 21 relating to quantities dispensed, performance or ordering of
 22 procedures or laboratory tests related to the diagnosis and treatment of
 23 conditions and diseases of the eye and ocular adnexae; these
 24 procedures include, but are not limited to, removal of superficial
 25 foreign bodies of the corneal epithelium, [that have not perforated
 26 bowman's membrane,] ultrasound and topical, oral or injectable
 27 medication to counteract anaphylaxis or anaphylactic reaction; (D) the
 28 nonsurgical treatment of glaucoma, [consistent with subsection (k) of
 29 this section,] or (E) the use of punctal plugs.] The "practice of advanced
 30 optometric care" does not include surgical treatment of glaucoma,
 31 treatment of ocular cancer, treatment of infectious diseases of the
 32 retina, diagnosis and treatment of systemic diseases, use of therapeutic
 33 lasers, use of injectable medications other than to counteract
 34 anaphylaxis or anaphylactic reaction, surgical procedures other than
 35 noninvasive procedures, use of general anesthesia, use of intravenous
 36 injections, procedures that require the cutting or opening of the globe,
 37 enucleation of the eye, extraocular muscle surgery or any invasive
 38 procedure performed on the human body other than noninvasive
 39 procedures performed on the eye or ocular adnexae.

40 (2) "Optometrist" means an individual licensed pursuant to this
 41 chapter to engage in the practice of optometry.

42 (3) The "practice of optometry" means any one or more of the
 43 following practices and procedures: (A) The examination of the human
 44 eye and the eyelid for the purpose of diagnosis, treatment excluding
 45 the lacrimal drainage system and lacrimal gland [or referral for
 46 consultation, as authorized by this section] or, where appropriate,
 47 referral to an ophthalmologist; (B) the use of tests, instruments,
 48 devices, ocular agents-D, ocular agents-T and noninvasive procedures
 49 for the purpose of investigation, examination, diagnosis, treatment
 50 excluding the lacrimal drainage system and lacrimal gland, or

insert:
 cornea

add
 closed
 bracket