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Statement of the Connecticut Association of Optometrists
February 16, 2016
Senate Bill 67

Sen. Gerratana, Rep. Ritter, Sen. Markley, Rep. Srinivasan and members of the committee:

The Connecticut Association of Optometrists would like to offer comments on Senate Bill 67, *An Act Concerning the Authority and Responsibilities of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses*.

We would request that you include Optometric Doctors in four specific sections of the bill.

Section 3 pertains to ABLE accounts and the certification that the individual is blind. Making this certification is within the scope of an Optometric Doctor and we would ask that our profession be referenced here.

Section 64 and Section 69 pertain to individual and group health insurance plan coverage of prescription eye drops. Optometric Doctors have full prescriptive rights and writing these scripts is a regular part of our practice. We would request to be included in these two sections.

Section 76 relates to a “hold” on the eviction of a tenant who is blind. The current statute requires a physician statement to this effect. Again, certifying that a patient is blind is part of our scope and we would ask that our profession be referenced here.

We appreciate the committee’s review of these additions and look forward to working with you on Senate Bill 67 as the session proceeds.