

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

SENATE BILL 82

By: Senator D. Sullivan
By: Representative Womack

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF "OPHTHALMIC DISPENSING" TO INCLUDE THE DISPENSING OF CONTACT LENSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-89-102(4), concerning the definition of "ophthalmic dispensing", is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

(iii) The verification of the quality of finished



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

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

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

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

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

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