



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 568** SLS 14RS 786  
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
Opp. Chamb. Action:  
  
Proposed Amd.:  
Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 27, 2014 4:11 PM	<b>Author:</b> NEVERS
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of Health and Hospitals/Board of Optometry	
<b>Subject:</b> The practice and regulation of optometry	<b>Analyst:</b> Alan M. Boxberger

OPTOMETRISTS EG SEE FISC NOTE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
Provides relative to the practice of optometry and the regulation of such profession. (gov sig)

Proposed law amends the definition of a “diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agent”; provides that optometrists are not excluded from performing ophthalmic surgeries except for specific procedures enumerated in proposed law; provides for definitions related to optometry; provides for procedures allowed within the scope of practice of optometry; provides for ophthalmic surgery procedures that are to be excluded from the scope of practice of optometry; provides that in a public health emergency, the state health officer may authorize licensed optometrists to administer inoculations for systemic health reasons; provides with respect to the regulation of optometry by the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners; provides for credentialing requirements to perform authorized ophthalmic surgery procedures by optometrists; and repeals provisions associated with a fine and disciplinary measures against optometrists practicing certain medicine or surgeries.

EXPENDITURES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Medicaid expenditures may be impacted by an indeterminable amount to the degree that proposed law has the potential to eliminate some Medicaid provider reimbursements and to the degree that proposed law may change utilization of ophthalmic surgical procedures within the Medicaid population.

Currently, dual eye exams may be billed by Medicaid providers when a patient is referred by an optometrist to an ophthalmologist for surgery, once for the initial optometrist visit and a bundled pre- and post-operative payment to an ophthalmologist. To the degree that proposed law may allow optometrists to perform any Medicaid reimbursable procedure that would be referred to an ophthalmologist under present law, and to the degree that patients allow the optometrist to perform said procedure rather than seek a subsequent appointment and treatment by an ophthalmologist, the state may realize a savings equal to the Medicaid reimbursement rate for an eye exam performed without anesthesia in an amount of approximately \$65-\$70 per patient. Any savings generated would be dependent upon the number of Medicaid eligible ophthalmic procedures that may be performed by optometrists under the authority of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners (LSBOE) and proposed law in lieu of those same services being performed by an ophthalmologist. The LFO is unable to provide an estimated number of procedures that would be Medicaid eligible or executed under the framework of this scenario, but the average Medicaid savings would be approximately \$65-\$70 per patient.

To the degree that utilization of ophthalmic surgeries in the state may increase as a result of expanding eligibility to a new provider group, Medicaid expenditures may realize a corresponding increase. The LFO is unable to determine whether proposed law would impact utilization rates.

NOTE: There are approximately 400 optometrists currently licensed by the LSBOE.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	 John D. Carpenter Legislative Fiscal Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}		
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}		