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[HF 347](#) – Licensed Optometrists, Injections (LSB1887HV.1)  
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Fiscal Note Version – Final Action

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**Description**

[House File 347](#) expands optometrists' scope of practice as defined in Iowa Code section [154.1](#) to include the administration of injectable anesthetics prior to the administration of other injections authorized in Iowa Code section 154.1(3)(b)(1).

**Background**

There are approximately 1,400 licensed optometrists in the State of Iowa. 2020 Iowa Acts, chapter [1109](#), expanded the scope of practice of optometrists to include the administration of injections for the following purposes:

- Subconjunctival injections for the medical treatment of the eye.
- Intralesional injections for the treatment of chalazia.
- Botulinum toxin to the muscles of facial expression innervated by the facial nerve.
- Injections to counteract an anaphylactic reaction.

The fiscal year (FY) 2023 General Fund appropriation for medical assistance was \$1,510.1 million. According to the December 2022 [Medicaid Forecast](#), the Medicaid surplus going into FY 2023 is projected to be approximately \$373.6 million.

**Assumptions**

- The Department of Health and Human Services estimates a 50.0% increase in provider reimbursement costs for this procedure due to increased utilization.
- Increased costs could be absorbed within current Medicaid program funding.

**Fiscal Impact**

The 50.0% increase in utilization for the administration of injectable anesthetics would increase costs by \$357,000 for both FY 2024 and FY 2025. The State share of these costs paid from Medicaid would be \$129,000 for FY 2024 and \$128,000 for FY 2025.

**Sources**

Department of Health and Human Services  
Iowa Board of Optometry  
Legislative Services Agency

/s/ Jennifer Acton

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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