

Senate Study Bill 3083 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON RAGAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act to allow therapeutically certified optometrists to
2 supply pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 154.1, subsection 4, Code 2009, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. a. Therapeutically certified optometrists may employ
4 all diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the
5 purpose of diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human
6 eye and adnexa pursuant to this subsection, excluding the
7 use of injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic
8 reaction, and notwithstanding section 147.107, may without
9 charge supply any of the above pharmaceuticals to commence a
10 course of therapy.

11 b. Therapeutically certified optometrists may
12 employ and, notwithstanding section 147.107, supply
13 pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses for the purpose
14 of treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa.
15 For purposes of this paragraph, "pharmaceutical-delivering
16 contact lenses" means contact lenses that contain one or more
17 therapeutic pharmaceutical agents authorized for employment
18 by this section for the purpose of treatment of conditions of
19 the human eye and adnexa and that deliver such agents into the
20 wearer's eye.

21 c. Therapeutically certified optometrists may prescribe
22 oral steroids for a period not to exceed fourteen days
23 without consultation with a physician. Therapeutically
24 certified optometrists shall not prescribe oral Imuran or oral
25 Methotrexate.

26 d. Therapeutically certified optometrists may be authorized,
27 where reasonable and appropriate, by rule of the board, to
28 employ new diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents
29 approved by the United States food and drug administration on
30 or after July 1, 2002, for the diagnosis and treatment of the
31 human eye and adnexa.

32 e. The board shall not be required to adopt rules relating
33 to topical pharmaceutical agents, oral antimicrobial agents,
34 oral antihistamines, oral antiglaucoma agents, and oral
35 analgesic agents. Superficial foreign bodies may be removed

1 from the human eye and adnexa.

2 f. The therapeutic efforts of a therapeutically certified
3 optometrist are intended for the purpose of examination,
4 diagnosis, and treatment of visual defects, abnormal
5 conditions, and diseases of the human eye and adnexa, for
6 proper optometric practice or referral for consultation or
7 treatment to persons licensed under chapter 148.

8 g. A therapeutically certified optometrist is an optometrist
9 who is licensed to practice optometry in this state and who
10 is certified by the board to use the agents and procedures
11 authorized pursuant to this subsection.

12 EXPLANATION

13 Code section 154.1 authorizes therapeutically certified
14 optometrists to employ all diagnostic and therapeutic
15 pharmaceutical agents for the purpose of diagnosis and
16 treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. This bill
17 allows therapeutically certified optometrists to also supply
18 pharmaceutical-delivering contact lenses for the purpose of
19 treatment of conditions of the human eye and adnexa. The bill
20 defines these lenses as contact lenses that contain one or more
21 of the authorized therapeutic pharmaceutical agents and that
22 deliver the agents into the wearer's eye.