

House Study Bill 500 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON VANDER LINDEN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the practice of optometry.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 154.1, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
2 2016, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. An optometrist licensed under this chapter 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 use
7 of injections ~~other than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction~~
8 which penetrate the globe, and notwithstanding section 147.107,
9 may without charge supply any of the above pharmaceuticals
10 to commence a course of therapy. A licensed optometrist may
11 perform minor surgical procedures and use medications for the
12 diagnosis and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions
13 of the eye and adnexa. A license to practice optometry under
14 this chapter does not authorize the performance of surgical
15 procedures which require the use of injectable or general
16 anesthesia, moderate sedation, penetration of the globe, or
17 the use of ophthalmic lasers for the purpose of ophthalmic
18 surgery within or upon the globe. The removal of pterygia and
19 Salzman's nodules, and incisional corneal refractive surgery,
20 ~~and strabismus surgery~~ are prohibited.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill makes changes to the types of actions which may be
25 performed by an optometrist. Previously, an optometrist could
26 not use injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic
27 reaction. Under the bill, an optometrist cannot use injections
28 which penetrate the globe. The bill also removes strabismus
29 surgery from a list of prohibited activities.