

By: Senator(s) Fillingane, Blackwell,
Caughman

To: Public Health and
Welfare; Accountability,
Efficiency, Transparency

SENATE BILL NO. 2070

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-19-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY TO DEFINE THE PRACTICE OF
3 OPTOMETRY, TO EXEMPT CERTAIN OPHTHALMIC SURGERY PROCEDURES FROM
4 THE DEFINITION OF OPTOMETRY AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE BOARD OF
5 OPTOMETRY TO DETERMINE ANY REQUIRED HOURS OF ADDITIONAL TRAINING
6 FOR ANY NEW PROCEDURE OFFERED BY OPTOMETRISTS; AND FOR RELATED
7 PURPOSES

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-19-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 73-19-1. (1) * * * The State Board of Optometry shall
12 define the practice of optometry.

13 (2) * * * The State Board of Optometry, in defining the
14 practice of optometry, shall not include the following ophthalmic
15 surgery procedures, except for the preoperative and postoperative
16 care of these procedures:

17 (a) Retina laser procedures, Laser-Assisted In Situ
18 Keratomeileus (LASIK), penetrating keratoplasty, corneal transplant
19 or lamellar keratoplasty;

20 (b) The administration of general anesthesia;



- 21 (c) Surgery done with general anesthesia;
- 22 (d) Laser or nonlaser incision of the vitreous chamber
23 of the eye to treat any macular or retinal disease;
- 24 (e) The following nonlaser surgical procedures:
- 25 (i) Surgery related to removal of the eye from a
26 living human being;
- 27 (ii) Surgery requiring full thickness incision or
28 excision of the cornea or sclera other than paracentesis in an
29 emergency situation requiring immediate reduction of the pressure
30 inside the eye;
- 31 (iii) Surgery requiring incision of the iris and
32 ciliary body, including the iris diathermy or cryotherapy;
- 33 (iv) Surgery requiring incision of the vitreous;
- 34 (v) Surgery requiring incision of the retina;
- 35 (vi) Surgical extraction of the crystalline lens;
- 36 (vii) Surgical intraocular implants;
- 37 (viii) Incisional or excisional surgery of the
38 extraocular muscles;
- 39 (ix) Incisional cosmetic or mechanical repair of
40 blepharochalasis, ptosis and tarsorrhaphy;
- 41 (x) Surgery of the bony orbit, including orbital
42 implants;
- 43 (xi) Incisional or excisional surgery of the
44 lacrimal system other than lacrimal probing or related procedures;



(xii) Surgery requiring full thickness
conjunctivoplasty with graft or flap; and
(xiii) Any surgical procedure that does not
provide for the correction and relief of ocular abnormalities;
(f) Incision into the eyeball;
(g) Retrobulbar or intraorbital injection; and
(h) Injection into the posterior segment.

(3) The State Board of Optometry shall determine the
required hours of additional training for any new procedure
offered by optometrists in Mississippi.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
and after July 1, 2020.

