

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Action:</b>        | Do Pass  |
| <b>Vote:</b>          | 9 - 0 - 1  |
| <b>Yeas:</b>          | Cannon, Harker, Hoyle, Kennemer, Kotek, Maurer, Nathanson, Thompson, Greenlick |
| <b>Nays:</b>          | 0  |
| <b>Exc.:</b>          | Bruun  |
| <b>Prepared By:</b>   | Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator  |
| <b>Meeting Dates:</b> | 2/4, 2/8, 2/10   |

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows minor 15 years of age or older to consent, without consent of parent or guardian of minor, to diagnosis and treatment by optometrist who is acting within scope of practice for optometrist except when minor is obtaining contact lenses for first time.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Review of existing law
- Consequences of prolonging any eye treatment
- Role of optometrists
- The need to notify parents
- Prescriptions and side-effects
- Proposed amendment

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, if a person under the age of 18 makes an appointment to see an optometric physician, the doctor or the doctor's staff may not conduct an examination or diagnose or treat the patient without the presence or consent of a parent or guardian. Proponents assert that delays in treatment can prolong the patient's pain, potentially complicate treatment and possibly jeopardize eyesight.

Existing law does allow other primary care providers such as a hospital, doctor, osteopath, nurse practitioner or dentist to diagnose or treat a minor patient without the consent of a parent or guardian through specific exceptions to ORS 109.640.

House Bill 3663 allows minors who are at least 15 years of age to consent to diagnosis and treatment by an optometrist, and allows optometrists to provide diagnosis and treatment to patients age 15 and older without parental/guardian consent, except when the minor is receiving contact lenses for the first time.

2/11/2010 9:31:00 AM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*