



Support HB 3530A - Prohibiting Vision Plan Abuses

**HB 3530A** was introduced on behalf of optometrists, owners and operators of Rainbow Labs in Eugene. HB 3530A will strengthen practices and protect eye care providers from the increasingly aggressive tactics of vision plans and health plans. Certain existing provisions allow insurance companies and vision plans to force business practices on Oregon Optometrists that may force higher prices for patients. *OOPA supports both the -2 and the -3 Amendments being considered.*

**Ensuring that providers are working on a fair and even playing field will mean that patients receive better care - which is good for all Oregonians!**

The current system forces eye doctors to absorb losses on non-covered services in order to attract payors and patients to their particular plan. This practice of cost-shifting has contributed to a major lack of transparency in the medical model and is not a fair solution – especially for those patients who will get stuck paying for someone else’s eye and vision services at the end of the day. Rep. Hoyle’s bill provides for a healthier business climate for Oregon based small business.

**HB 3530A will:**

- Prohibit vision and health plans from forcing optometrists to charge below-market prices for services and materials that are not covered by the plan.
- Stop vision and health plans from mandating that providers accept certain vision plans as a condition of seeing patients who participate in premium plans.
- Only affects services which are NOT covered by an insurance plan or discount card. Services contractually covered under the plan will continue to be subject to that plan’s fee schedule.
- Maintain the cost of claims to the insurers since they are not paying for any part of it. Their premium calculations are already made on the basis that they are not paying for these additional services and there is zero impact on the state budget.
- Level the playing field for Oregon’s Optometrists against large, out of state insurance companies who are exempt from the kind of antitrust laws that prevent eye doctors from addressing these concerns collectively.

***A strong practice means better quality and less costly eye care for patients around Oregon.***