



Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Good morning Chairman Prozanski, Vice Chair Kruse and members of the Committee. I am **Dr. Trevor Cleveland**, an optometrist with a private practice in **Springfield**. I serve as the **Immediate Past President** for the **Oregon Optometric Physician's Association**.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to participate in today's hearing and to speak with you about the care that I, and my fellow optometrists, provide for our patients. Particularly, those patients who wear contact lenses.

Speaking for the **Oregon Optometric Physician Association**, we are strongly opposed to **Senate Bill 1576** that would seek to eliminate Unilateral Pricing Policies (UPP) on contact lenses in Oregon, as we are certain there will be long term, negative implications for our patients should this legislation become law.

The **Oregon Optometric Physician Association**, with nearly **800** members, is the leading voice for the optometric profession in **Oregon** and we have clinics in almost every county in the state. As you are aware, optometrists provide a full range of primary eye care that includes diagnosing and treatment of many eye diseases in addition to the fitting and prescribing of contact lenses. Contact lenses are regulated medical devices that cannot be purchased without a prescription.¹ Doctors of optometry, unlike contact lens retailers, have a code of ethics² and professional oversight by state licensing boards. The requirement for the prescription is not itself an indication of any type of anti-competitive, anti-consumer action as the requirement for a prescription is based on ensuring patient safety. Optometrists take pride in what they do, and they value the trusted relationships formed with their patients and patient's families; these patients and families are also your constituents.

With contact lens wearers, particularly "new" lens wearers, there is careful follow-up to evaluate the lens performance and interaction with the eye tissue in addition to how the patient is experiencing the ongoing comfort, vision, and specific care regimen for the lens. This affords the opportunity and time to be assured, as practitioners, that the patient is understanding the care and hygiene of contacts, while checking for questions or concerns before they become complications. Once a contact lens fitting and prescribing process is complete, the doctor has assumed responsibility for the release of this prescription to the patient and contact lenses may be purchased.

¹ <http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/HomeHealthandConsumer/ConsumerProducts/ContactLenses/ucm062347.htm>

² <http://www.aoa.org/about-the-aoa/ethics-and-values/code-of-ethics>