



# OREGON ACADEMY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

**TO:** Chair Greenlick  
Members of the House Committee on Healthcare

**FR:** Jennifer Lyons, MD  
President, Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology

Sabrina Riggs  
Lobbyist, Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology

**RE:** Support of HB 2622

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The Oregon Academy of Ophthalmology (OAO) is a professional association of eye physicians and surgeons who specialize in the medical and surgical treatment of eye diseases and other conditions, and also provide vision care services. We have about 170 active members, which encompass about 80% of the profession.

As the association of physicians and surgeons who perform corneal transplants, the OAO is very supportive of HB 2622. Our physicians have seen first-hand the difference a cornea transplant can make— quite literally, it gives the patient a new view on life.

Transplants are performed to restore in a diseased or scared eye vision, or when eye pain is so great that medication alone is no longer a viable treatment. The National Eye Institute estimates that roughly 33,000 corneal transplants are performed across the US each year, and that the failure rate for low-risk corneal transplant is less than 10%.

These life-changing transplants would not be possible if not for generous organ donors. To ensure a robust pool, the OAO believes that public outreach and education is absolutely necessary. Thus, the OAO urges you to support HB 2622.