

Senate Bill 17

By: Senators Harp of the 29th, Unterman of the 45th, Hooks of the 14th, Mullis of the 53rd, Harbison of the 15th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 30 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 optometrists, so as to authorize certain optometrists to prescribe and administer oral and
3 topical pharmaceutical agents related to the diagnosis or treatment of diseases and conditions
4 of the eye and adnexa oculi except Schedule I and Schedule II controlled substances; to
5 provide for statutory construction; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 30 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to optometrists,
10 is amended by adding to the end of paragraph (2) of Code Section 43-30-1, relating to
11 definitions, new subparagraphs to read as follows:

12 "(I) A doctor of optometry who is certified to use pharmaceutical agents for treatment
13 purposes shall be authorized to prescribe and administer those oral pharmaceutical
14 agents medically indicated for the diagnosis, management, or treatment of diseases and
15 conditions of the eye and adnexa oculi except those included in Article 2 of Chapter 13
16 of Title 16, the 'Georgia Controlled Substances Act,' as Schedule I or Schedule II
17 controlled substances; provided, however, that a doctor of optometry shall not be
18 authorized to prescribe or administer oral steroids for a period of more than 7 days.

19 (J) Nothing in this Code section shall be construed to authorize a doctor of optometry
20 to treat diseases and conditions outside the eye and eyelid."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.