

Senate Bill 382

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Strickland of the 17th, Walker III of the 20th, Kirk of the 13th, Miller of the 49th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-30-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 definitions relative to optometrists, so as to provide for guidance and consultation by the
3 Department of Public Health on certain training programs approved by the State Board of
4 Optometry for doctors of optometry who administer pharmaceutical agents by injection; to
5 provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 43-30-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions
10 relative to optometrists, is amended by revising subparagraph (C) of paragraph (2) as
11 follows:

12 "(C) A doctor of optometry may administer pharmaceutical agents related to the
13 diagnosis or treatment of diseases and conditions of the eye and adnexa oculi by
14 injection, except for sub-tenon, retrobulbar, peribulbar, facial nerve block,
15 subconjunctival anesthetic, dermal filler, intravenous injections, intramuscular
16 injections, intraorbital nerve block, intraocular, or botulinum toxin injections, if he or
17 she:

18 (i) Holds a current license or certificate of registration issued by the board and has
19 obtained a certificate showing successful completion of an injectables training
20 program, sponsored by a school or college of optometry credentialed by the United
21 States Department of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation,
22 consisting of a minimum of 30 hours approved by the board; or

23 (ii)(I) Is enrolled in an injectables training program, sponsored by a school or
24 college of optometry credentialed by the United States Department of Education and
25 the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation, in order to fulfill the requirements of
26 such training program consisting of a minimum of 30 hours approved by the board;
27 and

28 (II) Is under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under Chapter 34 of this
29 title and board certified in ophthalmology.

30 Any injectables training program approved by the board pursuant to this subparagraph
31 shall, prior to its approval by the board, be subject to the guidance and consultation of
32 the Department of Public Health as to the appropriate curriculum necessary to
33 safeguard the public health of the people of this state. Such guidance, consultation, and
34 approval shall occur after the effective date of this Act but prior to January 1, 2019, and
35 shall be updated in the same manner annually thereafter."

36 **SECTION 2.**

37 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
38 without such approval.

39 **SECTION 3.**

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