

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

AS PASSED SENATE

**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 by the Department of Public
3 Health on certain training programs approved by the State Board of Optometry for doctors
4 of optometry who administer pharmaceutical agents by injection; to provide for related
5 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

7 **SECTION 1.**

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

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

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

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

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

29 Any injectables training program approved by the board pursuant to this subparagraph
30 shall, prior to its approval by the board, be subject to the guidance of the Department
31 of Public Health as to the appropriate curriculum necessary to safeguard the public
32 health of the people of this state."

33 **SECTION 2.**

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.