

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 1397

---

---

C 203 L 09  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Concerning the delegation of authority to registered nurses.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller, Ericksen, Cody, Green, Hinkle, Morrell, Bailey, Williams, Nelson and Wood).

**House Committee on Health Care & Wellness**  
**Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care**

### **Background:**

#### Registered Nurses.

A registered nurse is a person who performs acts requiring substantial specialized knowledge, judgment, and skill based on the principles of the biological, physiological, behavioral, and sociological sciences in:

- the observation, assessment, diagnosis, care or counsel, and health teaching of individuals with illnesses, injuries, or disabilities, or in the maintenance of health or prevention of illness in others;
- the performance of acts requiring education and training that are recognized by the medical and nursing professions as proper and that are authorized by the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission;
- the administration, supervision, delegation, and evaluation of nursing practice;
- the teaching of nursing; or
- the execution of medical regimen as prescribed by certain health care professionals.

A registered nurse may administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, if within his or her scope of practice, at the direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, osteopathic physician and surgeon, naturopathic physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.

#### Optometry.

Optometry is the examination of the human eye, the examination of any defects in the human vision system, and the analysis of the process of vision. The practice of optometry includes:

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

- the use of objective or subjective means or methods, including the use of drugs, for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes;
- the use of diagnostic instruments or devices for the examination or analysis of vision;
- the prescription, fitting, and adjustment of lenses, prisms, and contact lenses;
- the prescription and provision of visual therapy, therapeutic aids, and other optical devices; and
- the adaptation of prosthetic eyes.

**Summary:**

A registered nurse may administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, at the direction of an optometrist.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	97	0
Senate	48	0

**Effective:** July 26, 2009