

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5293**

Chapter 113, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature  
2015 Regular Session

OPTOMETRISTS--HYDROCODONE PRODUCTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/2015

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2015  
Yeas 47 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 13, 2015  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved April 25, 2015 10:53 AM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5293** as passed by Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

HUNTER G. GOODMAN

**Secretary**

FILED

April 25, 2015

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5293**

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Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**64th Legislature**

**2015 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health Care (originally sponsored by Senators Becker, Keiser, Rivers, Conway, Dammeier, Hobbs, Angel, Frockt, Bailey, Ericksen, Mullet, and Benton)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/15.

1       AN ACT Relating to preserving the use of hydrocodone products by  
2 licensed optometrists in Washington state; and amending RCW  
3 18.53.010.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5       **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.53.010 and 2013 c 19 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7       (1) The practice of optometry is defined as the examination of  
8 the human eye, the examination and ascertaining any defects of the  
9 human vision system and the analysis of the process of vision. The  
10 practice of optometry may include, but not necessarily be limited to,  
11 the following:

12       (a) The employment of any objective or subjective means or  
13 method, including the use of drugs, for diagnostic and therapeutic  
14 purposes by those licensed under this chapter and who meet the  
15 requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section, and the use  
16 of any diagnostic instruments or devices for the examination or  
17 analysis of the human vision system, the measurement of the powers or  
18 range of human vision, or the determination of the refractive powers  
19 of the human eye or its functions in general; and

1 (b) The prescription and fitting of lenses, prisms, therapeutic  
2 or refractive contact lenses and the adaption or adjustment of frames  
3 and lenses used in connection therewith; and

4 (c) The prescription and provision of visual therapy, therapeutic  
5 aids, and other optical devices; and

6 (d) The ascertainment of the perceptive, neural, muscular, or  
7 pathological condition of the visual system; and

8 (e) The adaptation of prosthetic eyes.

9 (2)(a) Those persons using topical drugs for diagnostic purposes  
10 in the practice of optometry shall have a minimum of sixty hours of  
11 didactic and clinical instruction in general and ocular pharmacology  
12 as applied to optometry, as established by the board, and  
13 certification from an institution of higher learning, accredited by  
14 those agencies recognized by the United States office of education or  
15 the council on postsecondary accreditation to qualify for  
16 certification by the optometry board of Washington to use drugs for  
17 diagnostic purposes.

18 (b) Those persons using or prescribing topical drugs for  
19 therapeutic purposes in the practice of optometry must be certified  
20 under (a) of this subsection, and must have an additional minimum of  
21 seventy-five hours of didactic and clinical instruction as  
22 established by the board, and certification from an institution of  
23 higher learning, accredited by those agencies recognized by the  
24 United States office of education or the council on postsecondary  
25 accreditation to qualify for certification by the optometry board of  
26 Washington to use drugs for therapeutic purposes.

27 (c) Those persons using or prescribing drugs administered orally  
28 for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes in the practice of optometry  
29 shall be certified under (b) of this subsection, and shall have an  
30 additional minimum of sixteen hours of didactic and eight hours of  
31 supervised clinical instruction as established by the board, and  
32 certification from an institution of higher learning, accredited by  
33 those agencies recognized by the United States office of education or  
34 the council on postsecondary accreditation to qualify for  
35 certification by the optometry board of Washington to administer,  
36 dispense, or prescribe oral drugs for diagnostic or therapeutic  
37 purposes.

38 (d) Those persons administering epinephrine by injection for  
39 treatment of anaphylactic shock in the practice of optometry must be  
40 certified under (b) of this subsection and must have an additional

1 minimum of four hours of didactic and supervised clinical  
2 instruction, as established by the board, and certification from an  
3 institution of higher learning, accredited by those agencies  
4 recognized by the United States office of education or the council on  
5 postsecondary accreditation to qualify for certification by the  
6 optometry board to administer epinephrine by injection.

7 (e) Such course or courses shall be the fiscal responsibility of  
8 the participating and attending optometrist.

9 (f)(i) All persons receiving their initial license under this  
10 chapter on or after January 1, 2007, must be certified under (a),  
11 (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection.

12 (ii) All persons licensed under this chapter on or after January  
13 1, 2009, must be certified under (a) and (b) of this subsection.

14 (iii) All persons licensed under this chapter on or after January  
15 1, 2011, must be certified under (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this  
16 subsection.

17 (3) The board shall establish a list of topical drugs for  
18 diagnostic and treatment purposes limited to the practice of  
19 optometry, and no person licensed pursuant to this chapter shall  
20 prescribe, dispense, purchase, possess, or administer drugs except as  
21 authorized and to the extent permitted by the board.

22 (4) The board must establish a list of oral Schedule III through  
23 V controlled substances and any oral legend drugs, with the approval  
24 of and after consultation with the pharmacy quality assurance  
25 commission. The board may include Schedule II hydrocodone combination  
26 products consistent with subsection (6) of this section. No person  
27 licensed under this chapter may use, prescribe, dispense, purchase,  
28 possess, or administer these drugs except as authorized and to the  
29 extent permitted by the board. No optometrist may use, prescribe,  
30 dispense, or administer oral corticosteroids.

31 (a) The board, with the approval of and in consultation with the  
32 pharmacy quality assurance commission, must establish, by rule,  
33 specific guidelines for the prescription and administration of drugs  
34 by optometrists, so that licensed optometrists and persons filling  
35 their prescriptions have a clear understanding of which drugs and  
36 which dosages or forms are included in the authority granted by this  
37 section.

38 (b) An optometrist may not:

39 (i) Prescribe, dispense, or administer a controlled substance for  
40 more than seven days in treating a particular patient for a single

1 trauma, episode, or condition or for pain associated with or related  
2 to the trauma, episode, or condition; or

3 (ii) Prescribe an oral drug within ninety days following  
4 ophthalmic surgery unless the optometrist consults with the treating  
5 ophthalmologist.

6 (c) If treatment exceeding the limitation in (b)(i) of this  
7 subsection is indicated, the patient must be referred to a physician  
8 licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW.

9 (d) The prescription or administration of drugs as authorized in  
10 this section is specifically limited to those drugs appropriate to  
11 treatment of diseases or conditions of the human eye and the adnexa  
12 that are within the scope of practice of optometry. The prescription  
13 or administration of drugs for any other purpose is not authorized by  
14 this section.

15 (5) The board shall develop a means of identification and  
16 verification of optometrists certified to use therapeutic drugs for  
17 the purpose of issuing prescriptions as authorized by this section.

18 (6) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to authorize the  
19 use, prescription, dispensing, purchase, possession, or  
20 administration of any Schedule I or II controlled substance, except  
21 Schedule II hydrocodone combination products. The provisions of this  
22 subsection must be strictly construed.

23 (7) With the exception of the administration of epinephrine by  
24 injection for the treatment of anaphylactic shock, no injections or  
25 infusions may be administered by an optometrist.

26 (8) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to authorize  
27 optometrists to perform ophthalmic surgery. Ophthalmic surgery is  
28 defined as any invasive procedure in which human tissue is cut,  
29 ablated, or otherwise penetrated by incision, injection, laser,  
30 ultrasound, or other means, in order to: Treat human eye diseases;  
31 alter or correct refractive error; or alter or enhance cosmetic  
32 appearance. Nothing in this chapter limits an optometrist's ability  
33 to use diagnostic instruments utilizing laser or ultrasound  
34 technology. Ophthalmic surgery, as defined in this subsection, does  
35 not include removal of superficial ocular foreign bodies, epilation  
36 of misaligned eyelashes, placement of punctal or lacrimal plugs,  
37 diagnostic dilation and irrigation of the lacrimal system,  
38 orthokeratology, prescription and fitting of contact lenses with the  
39 purpose of altering refractive error, or other similar procedures  
40 within the scope of practice of optometry.

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2015.  
Passed by the House April 13, 2015.  
Approved by the Governor April 25, 2015.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 25, 2015.