



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 638

SENATE BILL NO. 220

By Overbey

Substituted for: House Bill No. 555

By Dennis, Faison, Durham, Littleton, Shepard, Goins

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 8, relative to optometry.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-8-102(12)(E)(i), is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of subdivision (c), by adding the word "and" at the end of subdivision (d), and by adding the following language as a new subdivision (e):

(e)(1) The use of a local anesthetic in conjunction with the primary care treatment of an eyelid lesion; provided, however, no optometrist shall use a local anesthetic for this purpose unless that optometrist has met the certification requirements set forth in § 63-8-112(4) and in the rules of the board of optometry for the administration of pharmaceutical agents in the performance of primary eye care procedures. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as allowing an optometrist to perform any reconstructive surgical procedure on the eyelid. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as allowing an optometrist to perform any procedure not approved by the board of optometry prior to the enactment of this subdivision;

(2) An optometrist may utilize local anesthesia by injection in performing the following procedures pursuant to this subdivision:

(A) Needle drainage of an eyelid abscess, hematoma, bulla, and seroma;

(B) Excision of a single epidermal lesion without characteristics of malignancy, no larger than five millimeters (5 mm) in size and no deeper than the dermal layer of the skin;

(C) Incision and curettage of a nonrecurrent chalazion;

(D) Simple repair of an eyelid laceration no larger than two and one-half centimeters (2.5 cm) and no deeper than the orbicularis muscle and not involving the eyelid margin or lacrimal drainage structures; or

(E) Removal of foreign bodies in the eyelid not involving lid margin, lacrimal drainage structures, and extending no deeper than the orbicularis muscle;

(3) An optometrist who uses a local anesthetic in the manner allowed by this subsection shall provide to the board of optometry proof that the optometrist has current CPR certification by an organization approved by the board; provided, that the optometrist may meet this requirement by providing proof to the board that another person who has current CPR certification will be present in the office of the optometrist at all times that a local anesthetic is used by the optometrist in conjunction with the treatment of an eyelid lesion. Compliance with this provision shall also require that the optometrist maintain in the optometrist's office an AED at all times that a local anesthetic is administered by the optometrist.

SECTION 2. The board of optometry is authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. All rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 220

PASSED: March 24, 2014



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 8th day of April 2014



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR