



House Health Care Committee  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear House Health Care Committee,

As three of the faculty members teaching in the laser courses at Pacific University College of Optometry, we write to you today in support of HB2541. After 4 years of optometry school we each completed a residency, have been teaching at Pacific for over 6 years, and in 2018 we all completed a certification course in Laser and Surgical Procedures from Oklahoma College of Optometry at Northeastern State.

We now teach part of our advanced laser course and two of us teach in our surgical procedures and injections course. Pacific University is well equipped to train current and future optometrists in these procedures. We are seeking only to perform procedures that optometric providers already have the diagnostic and therapeutic skills and training to complete.

Times are changing and with the growing health care needs, our profession must change as well. Optometrists used to be unable to dilate the eyes, remove foreign bodies, prescribe oral medications, or treat glaucoma. We are now able to serve so many more of our patients. Anterior segment lasers are the next step in this process. Five other states (Alaska, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Oklahoma) have already been practicing these procedures. As optometrists, we are concerned about the well-being of our patients and strive to provide them the best care possible.

In conclusion, we support HB2541 and would be proud to be part of the training of current and future optometrists in these advanced procedures.

Sincerely,

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