

Timothy J. Arbow, O.D.

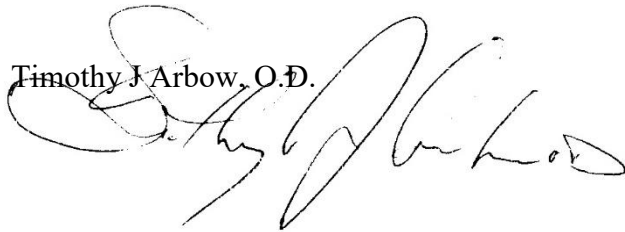
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I have provided eye care in North Lake County in the same setting as a nurse practitioner for the past 15 years and can attest that often giving quality care in a rural setting is daunting. Putting an unachievable stipulation on a tax deduction by requiring hospital privileges for doctors of optometry in North Lake County will only further dilute access to care. The closest hospital to the north is 90 miles, to the south 102 miles, and over 120 miles to the southwest. Patients requiring urgent hospital care are now airlifted to Bend with a local physician waiting.

Limiting any tax benefit to rural eye care will only create more barriers for obtaining quality care to this underserved population, people many of whom are living on a minimal fixed income.

Timothy J Arbow, O.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Arbow", written over the printed name.