

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor.

House Bill 619 would result in the lowering of the standard of medical care for our citizens.

I believe that Maryland is able to attract and maintain such world renowned medical institutions as John Hopkins and the Wilmer Institute because we have established an environment that fosters the highest standards of medical care for our citizens. I believe we can continue to provide this high standard of medical care only if the ophthalmological community works together with the Board of Examiners in Optometry to assure that patients receive the most appropriate and safe eye care.

For the above reasons, I have decided to veto House Bill 619.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

House Bill No. 619

AN ACT concerning

Optometry - Use of Topical Ocular
Diagnostic Pharmaceutical Agents

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "practice optometry" to include the use of drugs or medicine under certain conditions; allowing certain optometrists to use topical ocular diagnostic pharmaceutical agents under certain circumstances; providing certain qualifications for certification under this Act; establishing certain minimum standards for certain education courses that meet the requirements of this Act; creating certain restrictions on the use of topical ocular diagnostic pharmaceutical agents by certain optometrists; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to collect and report certain statistical information; establishing certain duties for the Board of Examiners in Optometry and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; and generally relating to the use of drugs or medicine by licensed optometrists.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations
Section 10-101(f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1986 Replacement Volume and 1987 Supplement)

BY adding to