

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect January 1, 1999, contingent on the taking effect of Chapter 585 (S.B. 118/H.B. 127) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998. If Chapter 585 becomes effective, Section 1 of this Act shall become null and void. If Chapter 585 does not become effective, Section 1 of this Act shall remain in effect and Section 2 of this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the General Assembly.

Approved May 21, 1998.

CHAPTER 626

(Senate Bill 632)

AN ACT concerning

Optometrists and Physicians - Replacement Contact Lens Prescriptions

FOR the purpose of requiring licensed optometrists and physicians to ensure that each prescription for certain types of contact lenses ~~meet~~ meets certain requirements; specifying requirements for the dispensing of replacement contact lenses; authorizing a certain patient to request ~~a copy~~ of a contact lens prescription from certain licensees; requiring certain licensees to provide their patients with ~~a copy~~ of a prescription containing certain information; specifying that certain licensees are exempt from liability for certain injuries to or conditions of their patients under certain circumstances; ~~requiring a person who dispenses contact lenses to dispense replacement lenses only upon receipt of a written prescription~~; requiring a person who dispenses contact lenses to maintain certain records for a certain time period; authorizing the State Board of Examiners in Optometry and the State Board of Physician Quality Assurance to impose a civil fine and utilize certain enforcement proceedings under certain circumstances; providing for the construction of this Act; and generally relating to the prescription and dispensing of replacement contact lenses.

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations

Section 11-404.4, 11-504, 14-507, and 14-608

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

11-404.4.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.