

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
H-107 State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed Senate Bill 447 – *Health Occupations – Requirements for the Practice of Optometry – Miscellaneous Revisions*.

This bill alters various provisions relating to the practice of optometry for therapeutically certified optometrists, including the circumstances under which a therapeutically certified optometrists may 1) administer and prescribe pharmaceutical agents; 2) treat glaucoma; 3) perform specified procedures; and 4) order specified tests. This bill also alters the definition of “practice optometry “ and requires therapeutically certified optometrists to obtain specified additional training by a certain date.

House Bill 471, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign Senate Bill 447.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor