

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Board of Examiners in Optometry 4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215 410-764-5994

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: SB 240 COMMITTEE: HGO POSITION: Support

TITLE: State Board of Examiners in Optometry – Sunset Extension

<u>BILL ANALYSIS</u>: This Bill extends the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the State Board of Examiners in Optometry (the "Board") for 3 years until July 1, 2028.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Board supports SB 240.

This Bill was amended by the Department to extend the Board's termination date from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2028. Passing of this Bill will ensure the continuation of the Board's mandated responsibilities of protecting the citizens of Maryland through its credentialing, examination, licensing, and disciplinary process for Optometrists.

Thank you for considering this testimony, The Board of Examiners in Optometry is respectfully requesting a favorable report on SB 240.

If you require additional information, please contact the Board's Executive Director, Gwendolyn Joyner, at 410-764-5994, or Gwendolyna.Joyner@maryland.gov.

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.