



Senate Finance Committee

March 4, 2026

Senate Bill 795 – *Health Insurance – Vision Benefits – Regulation of Insurers and Vision Benefit Managers*

**POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

The Maryland Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (MSEPS) is the professional organization of ophthalmologists in Maryland. Maryland is a world-renowned center for the training of ophthalmologists, including the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University. MSEPS **supports with amendment** Senate Bill 795, which seeks to regulate the practice of vision benefit managers.

Like pharmacy benefit managers, regulating vision benefit managers is important to ensure fair reimbursement, transparent contracting, and protection from policies that disadvantage optometrists and ophthalmologists. Oversight prevents corporate interference in clinical decision-making, safeguards patient choice, and preserves access to quality eye care.

In supporting the bill, MSEPS respectfully requests one amendment – that references to optometrists and physicians be listed separately rather than collectively as “eye care provider(s).”

On page 2, in line 26, strike “EYE CARE PROVIDER” and substitute “OPTOMETRIST”; in line 27, strike beginning with “OR” down through “ARTICLE” in line 29.

On page 2, after line 29, insert:

“(C) PHYSICIAN MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE UNDER TITLE 14 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATION ARTICLE.”

With this amendment, the subsection will need to be renumbered, and throughout the bill, wherever “EYE CARE PROVIDER” or “EYE CARE PROVIDERS” are referenced, it will need to be changed to “OPTOMETRIST AND PHYSICIAN”.

**For more information call:**

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