

## Session 118 - (2009-2010)

**H 4819 General Bill, By J.R. Smith**

***Similar (H 3303)***

**Summary:** Optometrists

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 40-37-20, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF TERMS USED IN CONNECTION WITH THE LICENSURE AND REGULATION OF OPTOMETRISTS, SO AS TO DELETE THE DEFINITIONS OF "BASIC CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST", "DIAGNOSTIC CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST", AND "THERAPEUTIC CERTIFIED OPTOMETRIST"; TO AMEND SECTION 40-37-30, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR OPTOMETRISTS, SO AS TO FURTHER SPECIFY ACTIVITIES THAT CONSTITUTE THE PRACTICE OF OPTOMETRY; TO AMEND SECTION 40-37-290, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO OPTOMETRISTS ADMINISTERING AND PRESCRIBING PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS, SO AS TO FURTHER SPECIFY WHAT PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY OPTOMETRISTS, AND FOR WHAT PURPOSES, TO DELETE THE PROVISION REQUIRING AN OPTOMETRIST TO COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE WITH AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST WHEN PRESCRIBING TOPICAL STEROIDS FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-ONE DAYS, AND TO PROVIDE THOSE INSTANCES WHEN AN OPTOMETRIST MAY ADMINISTER INJECTIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 40-37-310, RELATING TO REFERRALS TO OPHTHALMOLOGISTS AND OTHER OPTOMETRISTS AND THE PROHIBITION AGAINST OPTOMETRISTS PERFORMING SURGERY, TO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, SO AS TO DELETE THE PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THESE REFERRALS AND THE PROHIBITION AGAINST PERFORMING SURGERY, TO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE, AND TO PROVIDE WHAT TYPE OF SURGICAL PROCEDURES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRACTICE OF OPTOMETRY; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 40-37-420 RELATING TO LICENSURE TRANSITION PROVISIONS THAT ARE OBSOLETE.

**04/13/10 House Introduced and read first time HJ-59**

**04/13/10 House Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs HJ-59**