

SENATE BILL NO. 2199

Introduced by

Senators Klein, D. Mathern

Representatives Delmore, R. Kelsch

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 43-13-13.3 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to optometrist treatment of primary open-angle glaucoma.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 43-13-13.3 of the 1999 Supplement to the North
5 Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **43-13-13.3. Standard of care - When consultation with physician required.**

- 7 1. An optometrist certified by the board in the use of pharmaceutical agents as
8 provided in this chapter must be held to the same standard of care in the use of
9 such agents as are physicians licensed by the state board of medical examiners.
- 10 2. Any optometrist authorized by the board to use pharmaceutical agents ~~must~~ shall
11 consult with a physician duly licensed to practice medicine when any diseased or
12 pathological conditions of the eye do not respond to treatment. The consultation
13 must be documented in the patient's record.
- 14 ~~3. After initiating treatment for primary open-angle glaucoma, the therapeutically~~
15 ~~certified optometrist shall consult with a licensed ophthalmologist within~~
16 ~~seventy-two hours. A treatment plan for each individual patient must be~~
17 ~~cooperatively identified in accordance with the currently accepted standard of care.~~
18 ~~In treating and managing glaucoma, if no progress is achieved in realizing the~~
19 ~~selected range of pressure considered unlikely to cause further optic nerve~~
20 ~~damage or resulting in further visual field loss, a referral must be made to a~~
21 ~~licensed ophthalmologist without delay.~~