

May 12, 2025

The Honorable Donna Bailey and Honorable Kristi Mathieson and Committee Members
Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

c/o Legislative Information Office, Maine State House
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

RE: LD 1803 – An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Optometric Practice

Dear Committee Members,

I'm writing to ask that you support LD 1803 and vote Ought to Pass when moving this bill along.

My name is Dr. N. Scott Ferguson, Optometrist. I practice in Fryeburg, opening my practice in 1992. This bill would open up greater access to our local practices for our patients to receive care closer to home. I've heard from my patients on a daily basis about how difficult it is to get timely appointments to see all types of medical providers. As a large segment of the population ages, there's greater demand for medical care. The supply of medical providers is not growing enough to meet their needs. By increasing the services provided per doctor would help balance the supply vs demand imbalance.

Doctors of Optometry are highly trained and capable of meeting this need, especially when credentialed to provide the services outlined in this bill.

In conclusion, a yes vote on LD 1803 will allow greater access to quality medical eye care. It includes some in-office non-invasive procedures, expands existing vaccination and prescription authority, and clarifies credentialing and CME (Continuing Medical Education) protocols. This bill will benefit your constituents, my patients and neighbors, and all the citizens of Maine

Please vote yes – Ought to Pass – on LD 1803. Thank you for your support of this common sense legislation.

Sincerely,

N. Scott Ferguson, OD

Fryeburg, Maine

N Scott Ferguson
Fryeburg
LD 1803

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Fryeburg, Maine