

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Health Care to which was referred Senate Bill No. 64  
3 entitled “An act relating to amendments to the scope of practice for  
4 optometrists” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and  
5 recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by  
6 striking out Sec. 6, effective date, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof  
7 three new sections to be Secs. 6–8 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 6. 33 V.S.A. § 1901h is added to read:

9 § 1901h. MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR SERVICES DELIVERED BY  
10 OPTOMETRIST HOLDING ADVANCED THERAPEUTIC  
11 PROCEDURES SPECIALTY

12 Vermont Medicaid shall cover services that are within the scope of practice  
13 of an optometrist holding an advanced therapeutic procedures specialty issued  
14 pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 30, subchapter 5 to the same extent that the  
15 services would be covered if they were delivered by a physician licensed  
16 pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 23 or 33.

17 Sec. 7. MEDICAID COVERAGE; STATE PLAN AMENDMENT

18 The Department of Vermont Health Access shall seek a state plan  
19 amendment from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to take  
20 effect on July 1, 2028, to allow Vermont’s Medicaid program to provide  
21 coverage for services delivered by an optometrist who is a Medicaid

1 participating provider and holds an advanced therapeutic procedures specialty  
2 as set forth in 33 V.S.A. § 1901h, as added by this act.

3 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATES

4 (a) Sec. 7 (Medicaid coverage; state plan amendment) and this section shall  
5 take effect on passage.

6 (b) Sec. 6 (33 V.S.A. § 1901h) shall take effect on the later of July 1, 2028,  
7 or approval of the state plan amendment requested pursuant to Sec. 7 of this  
8 act.

9 (c) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2028.

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(Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE COMMITTEE