



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

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### Am. H.B. 258

130th General Assembly  
(As Reported by H. Health and Aging)

**Reps.** Gonzales, Becker, Grossman, Hood, Retherford, Roegner, Wachtmann, Brown, Schuring

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Permits licensed spectacle dispensing opticians to dispense prepackaged soft contact lenses in circumstances limited to matching their packaging with a prescription.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Prepackaged soft contact lenses from licensed spectacle dispensing opticians

The bill authorizes licensed spectacle dispensing opticians to dispense prepackaged soft contact lenses if the only action necessary is to match the description on the packaging with a written prescription.<sup>1</sup> Current law does not permit a licensed spectacle dispensing optician to dispense any contact lenses. Only optometrists, physicians, spectacle-contact lens dispensing opticians, and contact lens dispensing opticians may do so.<sup>2</sup>

### Background: dispensing optician licensure

The three categories of dispensing opticians discussed above are licensed by the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board.<sup>3</sup> The type of license held governs the extent to which the holder is permitted to engage in optical dispensing.<sup>4</sup> Current law defines "optical

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4725.40(D)(2) and 4725.411.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4725.40 and 4725.59, not in the bill.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4725.41, not in the bill.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4725.40(D), (E), and (F).

dispensing" as (1) interpreting, but not altering, the prescription of a licensed physician or optometrist, (2) designing, adapting, fitting, or replacing prescribed optical aids, including spectacles and contact lenses, (3) duplicating lenses, other than contact lenses, accurately as to power without a prescription, and (4) duplicating nonprescription eyewear and parts of eyewear.<sup>5</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	09-04-13
Reported, H. Health & Aging	10-30-13

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<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4725.40(B).

