

Testimonial

Mr. Chairman and Directors, Officers and members of the Board of Registration, my name is Catherine Selucky. I am a Massachusetts Licensed Optician specializing in contact lens fitting and dispensing.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my viewpoint here today.

Statement of Concern:

My concern is that any changes which compromise the ability for a Massachusetts licensed optician under a single license to be able to fit and dispense contact lenses would limit and restrict the consumer's choices in which to receive and purchase contact lens services.

3. Supporting Arguments:

A large percentage of contact lenses purchased by Massachusetts consumers are through opticians. The contact lens provision in Massachusetts licensure ensures that all opticians have the capability and opportunity to compete in the contact lens market and offer the consumer fair trade options.

Clinical projections indicate a growing need for contact lens fitting professionals over the next 5-10 years.

As contact lens education has become a potential area of growth in opticianry, the number of contact lens fitting opticians has increased in each of the last five years.

Any changes to the current Massachusetts license enabling contact lens fitting may be detrimental to the livelihood of those opticians who currently provide contact lens fitting and to those opticians who wish to do so in the future.

4. Summary & Closing: In closing I would like to state that the current Massachusetts license, which provides for the fitting and dispensing of eye glasses and contact lenses, is one of the most progressive licenses in the country and therefore provides the most diverse and highest quality optical services to the Massachusetts consumer. For the sake of providing the best in eyecare to optical consumers throughout the country, our Massachusetts license is a license that other states should aspire to achieve.