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GOVERNOR

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BOARD OF OPTOMETRIC
EXAMINERS**

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Patient Safety in Expanded Therapeutic Procedures Workgroup

- The Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners (“KBOE”) proposes creation of the Patient Safety in Expanded Therapeutic Procedures Workgroup (“Workgroup”) to provide expert guidance regarding training standards, credentialing, competency verification, and patient safety protocols related to certain laser procedures performed by optometrists as authorized under Kentucky law.
- The Workgroup shall be composed of the following:
 1. Two (2) optometrists currently serving on the Kentucky Board of Optometric Examiners;
 2. Two (2) Kentucky laser-credentialed and practicing optometrists, which includes one (1) optometrist submitted by the Kentucky Optometric Association and one (1) optometrist who has self-nominated to the committee;
 3. Three (3) Kentucky licensed and practicing ophthalmologists, which includes one (1) ophthalmologist submitted by the Kentucky Association of Eye Physicians and Surgeons and two (2) ophthalmologists who have self-nominated to the committee;
 4. One (1) current optometrist faculty member of the Kentucky College of Optometry submitted by the Dean of the Kentucky College of Optometry; and
 5. One (1) licensed optometrist not currently practicing in Kentucky who meets one or several of the following criteria:
 - a. Has performed a high volume of YAG/SLT procedures;
 - b. Has taught laser CE courses;
 - c. Has published or presented nationally;
 - d. Involved in advanced procedures education; or
 - e. Has participated in credentialing frameworks.
- Members of the Workgroup shall be appointed by the KBOE and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the KBOE.
- The President of the KBOE shall make any necessary appointments to fill vacancies.
- The Workgroup shall review the existing safety standards and credentialing process for laser procedures by Kentucky optometrists and shall supply written recommendations to the KBOE by July 1, 2026.
- The KBOE shall review the Workgroup recommendations and formally promulgate administrative regulations which include the approved changes which will be effective in 2027.
- The Workgroup shall provide guidance and written recommendations to the KBOE on an ongoing basis upon request by the KBOE.
- The KBOE shall supply all written recommendations from the Workgroup to the Kentucky General Assembly upon request.