

1 WHEREAS, the Paragraph of law defining ophthalmic surgery also provides
2 explicitly that only persons licensed to practice medicine by the Louisiana State Board of
3 Medical Examiners under the laws of this state may perform this type of surgery; and

4 WHEREAS, balancing access to health care with patient safety is a vital public
5 health priority of this state.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
7 authorize and request the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to study whether
8 authorization to perform surgical procedures on the human eye could be extended to health
9 professionals other than physicians in a manner that ensures an adequate level of patient
10 safety.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the Louisiana State
12 Board of Medical Examiners shall engage and solicit input and perspective from the
13 Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners on matters related to ophthalmic care.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners
15 shall include in the study an examination of the policies of the state of Oklahoma authorizing
16 performance of laser surgery procedures by optometrists and an evidence-based evaluation
17 of the impacts on patient safety of those policies.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners
19 shall submit its findings from the study in the form of a report to the House Committee on
20 Health and Welfare and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare on or before
21 November 1, 2014.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners
23 shall transmit to the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners the findings and
24 recommendations it submits to the legislative committees specified herein, and shall do so
25 on the same date that it submits the materials to the specified legislative committees.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
27 executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and to the executive
28 director of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Carmody

HCR No. 43

Authorizes and requests the La. State Board of Medical Examiners to study whether authorization to perform surgical procedures on the human eye could be extended to health professionals other than physicians in a manner that ensures an adequate level of patient safety, to engage and solicit input and perspective from the La. State Board of Optometry Examiners in conducting the study, and to report findings and recommendations to the legislative committees on health and welfare on or before Nov. 1, 2014.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Deleted provision requesting that the report which the La. State Board of Medical Examiners is to submit include necessary and appropriate policy recommendations.
2. Added provision requiring that the La. State Board of Medical Examiners include in its study an examination of the policies of the state of Oklahoma authorizing performance of laser surgery procedures by optometrists and an evidence-based evaluation of the impacts on patient safety of those policies.