



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Assembly Bill 591	Assembly Amendment 1
-------------------------------	---------------------------------

Memo published: January 15, 2010

Contact: Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2982)

Current law allows an optometrist who satisfies specified requirements to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents and topical ocular diagnostic pharmaceutical agents. An optometrist is not permitted to dispense agents other than by prescribing or administering, except for complimentary samples of therapeutic pharmaceutical agents.

Assembly Bill 591 allows an optometrist to dispense a contact lens that also delivers a therapeutic pharmaceutical agent, if the optometrist is authorized to prescribe or administer that agent under rules. The bill also modifies the provision in the statutes dealing with controlled substances to reference the new authority of an optometrist to dispense contact lens that deliver a therapeutic pharmaceutical agent. However, in doing so, the bill references only the new authority but does not include the authority that optometrists have under current law to dispense by prescribing or administering or providing complimentary samples. *Assembly Amendment 1* includes a reference to both the authority that optometrists have under current law and the authority given to optometrists by the bill.

Legislative History

The Assembly Committee on Health and Healthcare Reform recommended adoption of Assembly Amendment 1, and passage of the bill as amended, both by votes of Ayes, 13; Noes, 0.

RNS:jal