

Amendment to HB 349-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

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3 1 Authorization to Perform Ophthalmic Laser Procedures. Amend RSA 327 by inserting after
4 section 6-c the following new section:

5 327:6-d Authorization to Perform Ophthalmic Laser Procedures.

6 I. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an optometrist licensed under this
7 chapter shall be authorized to perform the following ophthalmic laser procedures upon certification
8 by the board:

9 (a) Laser capsulotomy.

10 (b) Laser trabeculoplasty.

11 (c) Laser peripheral iridotomy.

12 II. The board shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A establishing the criteria for certification of
13 an optometrist to perform ophthalmic laser procedures with proficiency, including:

14 (a) Establishment of minimum education, training, and live experience requirements for
15 a licensee to perform such procedures with proficiency;

16 (b) Criteria for requiring proctoring and criteria for proctors; and

17 (c) Outcome reporting requirements for such procedures performed by certificate
18 holders.

19 III. No optometrist shall perform ophthalmic laser procedures under this section unless the
20 optometrist has submitted evidence of satisfactory completion of all requirements for specific
21 procedures and the board has certified the optometrist as qualified.

22 IV.(a) To be certified by the board to perform ophthalmic laser procedures as specified in
23 paragraph I, an optometrist licensed under this chapter shall:

24 (1) Complete the required application designated by the board; and

25 (2) Submit evidence of successful completion of a laser course approved by the board
26 that includes didactic and clinical training relative to the ophthalmic laser procedures set forth in
27 paragraph I; and

28 (3) Demonstrate clinical proficiency in performing the specified ophthalmic laser
29 procedure on a living human eye in the presence of, under the direct supervision of, and to the
30 satisfaction of a board-approved proctor. The proctor shall be an ophthalmologist or an optometrist
31 who is authorized to perform the laser procedure. The licensed applicant shall submit to the board

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1 evidence of a minimum of 5 laser capsulotomy, 5 laser trabeculoplasty, and 4 laser peripheral
2 iridotomy procedures performed with proficiency under proctored supervision.

3 (b) A licensee may apply for certification separately and may receive certification
4 individually for each approved ophthalmic laser procedure based upon the above criteria applied
5 individually for each approved procedure.

6 V.(a) An optometrist licensed under this chapter may apply for laser certification by
7 endorsement from another state by completing the following:

8 (1) Complete the required application for laser certification by endorsement
9 designated by the board.

10 (2) Submit evidence of licensure in good standing in another state.

11 (3) Provide certification by that state to perform the ophthalmic laser procedures as
12 specified in paragraph I.

13 (4) Submit evidence of successful completion of a laser course approved by the board
14 that includes didactic and clinical training relative to the ophthalmic laser procedures set forth in
15 paragraph I.

16 (5) Submit evidence of successful completion of a minimum of 5 laser capsulotomy, 5
17 laser trabeculoplasty, and 4 laser peripheral iridotomy procedures performed.

18 (b) A licensee may apply for certification separately and may receive certification
19 individually for each approved ophthalmic laser procedure based upon the above criteria applied
20 individually for each approved procedure.