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Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL REGULATION



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LD 1803 Stakeholder Group

Meeting #3 Discussion Questions

The December meeting will focus on two topics: 1) prescriptive authority, and 2) the board of optometry.

Please be prepared to present the prescriptive authority-related information that you previously shared in response to the Meeting #2 request for data.

For the board of optometry-related questions (below), please share your answers with DPFR staff by **COB, December 11**.

As before, all references to LD 1803 relate to LD 1803 as amended by the sponsor's amendment. And while we want to hear from all parties, we appreciate that not all parties will have answers to each question. Whenever possible, we ask that you quantify your response with **data**. For **non-Board** representatives, please coordinate with your respective stakeholders to provide a single response.

In addition to the questions below, please feel free to share additional quantitative data that you think would be helpful for this discussion.

Boards of Optometry

1. Identify which expanded scope states delegate the optometrists' scope of practice authority exclusively to their optometry board (as proposed in LD 1803).
2. Identify which State of Maine health care boards delegate all scope of practice authority to its regulatory board.
3. What role would the state legislature have in determining future changes in scope of practice?
4. Does the Board have the subject matter expertise and staff support to regulate the proposed and any future scope of practice expansions? What additional expertise and support may be needed?

5. Question specific to staff/chair of Maine Board of Optometry. Please provide data on:

- a. How often, on average, the board meets and average length of board meeting.
- b. The board's annual budget.
- c. The board's budget projections.
- d. The number and titles of the board's staff.
- e. What capacities would the board need to provide oversight to this expansion and any future expansion if scope becomes within boards exclusive purview (e.g., research, rulemaking, continuing education , development and oversight of additional certifications or authorities).
- f. Can the board support this expanded role through their current licensing fees or would fees need to increase and by how much?
- g. For the years 2001 – 2025 (or if that time frame is too burdensome of a data request, we would appreciate at least the licensing numbers for actively licensed optometrists in 2001-2011 and 2025), the number of active, licensed optometrists in Maine by type of licensure:
 - i. All actively licensed optometrists
 - ii. Therapeutic advanced glaucoma license
 - iii. Therapeutic advanced license
 - iv. Therapeutic license
 - v. Diagnostic license

6. Regarding each expansion state's board, please provide data on:

- a. How often, on average, the board meets and average length of board meeting?
- b. The board's annual budget.
- c. The board's budget projections.
- d. The number and titles of the board's staff.
- e. How was the workload for the boards impacted by the expanded authority?
- f. Is the board under an umbrella agency like the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation or an affiliated board like the Board of Optometry?