

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
83R12650 SCL-D

C.S.S.B. 632
By: Carona
State Affairs
4/2/2013
Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

C.S.S.B. 632 amends current law relating to contracts between optometrists or therapeutic optometrists and health maintenance organizations or insurers.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter D, Chapter 1451, Insurance Code, by adding Section 1451.155, as follows:

Sec. 1451.155. **CONTRACTS WITH OPTOMETRISTS OR THERAPEUTIC OPTOMETRISTS.** (a) Defines "covered product or service" and "vision care product or service" in this section.

(b) Prohibits a contract between an insurer and an optometrist or therapeutic optometrist from limiting the fee the optometrist or therapeutic optometrist is authorized to charge for a product or service that is not a covered product or service.

(c) Prohibits a contract between an insurer and an optometrist or therapeutic optometrist from requiring a discount on a product or service that is not a covered product or service.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective to January 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2013.