



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

March 19, 2026

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S.64 – An act relating to relating to amendments to the scope of practice for optometrists

As recommended by the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare^{1,i}

Bill Summary

This bill would create an advanced therapeutic procedures specialty for optometrists that would allow qualified professionals to perform advanced procedures, including certain surgical, laser, and injection procedures.

S.64 would expand the scope of practice for the optometrist license.

Fiscal Impact

The bill would generate a minimal amount of revenue for the Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) Professional Regulatory Fee Fund from advanced therapeutic procedures specialty licenses. Data from OPR indicates that approximately 50 professionals would adopt the specialty. Licenses cost \$100 and fees are paid only at application – there are no renewal fees. Accordingly, revenues will be highest in fiscal year 2027 when the specialty licenses are first available, with a maximum estimated amount of \$5,000.

ⁱ The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.

¹ The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations.