

2022 AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

SUBMITTED RESOLUTION

LETTER ASSIGNED: B TITLE: Future Practice Initiative – Amending Resolution 2011

SOURCE: AOA Board of Trustees

STATUS: Referred to House of Delegates

DATE: June 15, 2022 TIME: 2:30 PM CT

NOTE: Wording in the current Resolution 2011 proposed to be deleted ~~lined-out~~
Wording in the current Resolution 2011 proposed to be added underscored

- 1 WHEREAS, the affiliated associations of the American Optometric Association (AOA)
2 continue to expand the scope of optometric practice through the legislative
3 process; and
- 4 WHEREAS, in 2018 AOA launched the Future Practice Initiative to provide resources to AOA-
5 affiliated associations in their efforts to pass scope of practice legislation that
6 recognizes the advances made in optometric education and post-graduate
7 training that allow contemporary doctors of optometry to provide full-scope
8 optometric care to their patients; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in 2018 AOA launched the Advanced Procedure and Future Practice Education
10 Task Force to develop and provide additional educational opportunities in
11 advanced optometric skills to students and doctors of optometry; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in the four years since the launch of the Future Practice Initiative and Advanced
13 Procedure Future Practice Education Task Force, five states have successfully
14 passed and enacted advanced surgical procedures and board authority provisions
15 through legislation; and
- 16 WHEREAS, not only has advanced optometric scope nearly doubled nationwide in 4 years,
17 but the legislation has been defended and upheld in courts and statewide ballot
18 efforts; and

19 WHEREAS, 2021 and 2022 were historic years for the profession with multiple states gaining
20 laser surgical privileges via legislative enactment; and
21 WHEREAS, in 2021 a total of 6 states gained greater scope of practice through legislative
22 enactment; and
23 WHEREAS, the multi-year, multi-million dollar commitment AOA made to the Future Practice
24 Initiative is dedicated to funding legislative, regulatory, public advocacy and
25 communication efforts, and is an integral part of the success in conjunction with
26 the statewide grassroots and volunteer efforts; and
27 WHEREAS, AOA is excited to continue the partnerships between AOA and AOA affiliated
28 associations to expand patient access to care via changes to optometric scope of
29 practice; and
30 WHEREAS, it is important for all state ~~scope of~~ optometric practice acts to be consistent
31 with the highest level of optometric education and training; now therefore be it
32 RESOLVED, that the AOA shall continue to encourage all affiliated associations to utilize the
33 resources developed by the Advanced Procedure and Future Practice Education
34 Task Force and the Future Practice Initiative; and be it further
35 RESOLVED, that the AOA shall encourage all AOA affiliated associations to promote these
36 resources to their members; and be it further
37 RESOLVED, that the AOA continue to explore additional ways to assist the affiliated
38 associations in initiatives to expand or defend their optometric practice acts.

**THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED AS SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AS YOU
CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION.**

POSSIBLE FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: After consultation with the AOA Secretary/Treasurer, the potential cost to the AOA of this resolution, if adopted, would be approximately: