Act now and contact your U.S. Representatives and Senators regarding the flawed FTC proposal

Call your two U.S. Senators and one House member at least one time each week for the next three weeks (until the end of July)—a total of at least nine calls. To do so each time, place separate calls with the U.S. Capitol switchboard 202.224.3121 each time asking for either one of your two Senators or one House member (House member, lookup here). Please use this script and share any after-action reports or needs for AOA staff follow up with Matt Willette, AOA’s director of congressional relations, at mwillette@aoa.org.

Thank you for taking my call. I appreciate your service to the public and all that the Senator/Congressman/woman is doing to support patients and health care providers during these challenging times.

I am a doctor of optometry practicing in ___________________________. I deliver essential primary eye and vision health care to working men and women, school-aged children and seniors, and provide critical access to chronic, urgent and emergent eye care.

I’ve faced many challenges these last few months. Thankfully— with key support from Congress— I’ve been able to weather the storm and continue serving as an important care access point for our community.

However, a damaging new federal rule change finalized late last month— in the middle of a public health emergency—threatens to harm all the progress we’ve made as we continue working to get back on our feet and back to full capacity patient care.

The Federal Trade Commission’s new Contact Lens Rule changes, set to take effect in September, are an unnecessary and overly burdensome paperwork and record-retention mandate that will cost tens of millions of dollars annually and the only thing it will accomplish is to divert scarce resources away from providing important patient care.

Please let the Senator/Congressman/woman know that I called to ask for him/her to work with the American Optometric Association and congressional leadership to include language within the upcoming virus relief package that would, at the very least, direct the FTC to delay implementation of these costly changes until after we’re more fully recovered from the effects of the pandemic.

Thank you.