



## ISSUE MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	March 8, 2019
<b>TO</b>	Legislation and Regulations Committee (LRC)
<b>FROM</b>	Shara Murphy, Executive Officer prepared by Marc Johnson, Policy Analyst
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Agenda Item # 8: Update, Discussion and Possible Recommendations to Full Board Regarding Assembly Bill 1467 (Salas): Optometrists: Scope of Practice: delegation of services agreement

This bill would authorize an optometrist to provide services set forth in a delegation of services agreement, as defined, between an optometrist and an ophthalmologist.

The intent of the bill, according to the text in Section 1, is to authorize ophthalmologists to enter into agreements for the delegation of services by ophthalmologists to optometrists that will increase the two professions' collaboration in the treatment of patients. Additionally, according to text, delegation of service agreements between ophthalmologists and optometrists will improve access to quality vision care, and provide options for screening and early diagnosis of systemic diseases.

This bill is sponsored by the California Optometrists Association (COA) and is currently awaiting referral to a policy committee. COA indicates the bill is a starting point and further refinement of the text is expected. Fiscal and workload impact to the Board is unclear, but required registration of the MOUs with the Board, possible changes in Board regulations, and the potential for additional enforcement could increase costs to the Board.

**Staff recommends a 'watch' position on AB 1467 at this time, with a potential 'support' position as the language in the bill develops further. The Board also may wish to discuss potential amendments to the bill and to direct staff to work with COA on those amendments.**

Attachments:  
 1. Text of AB 1467