

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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ISSUE MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 7, 2022
то	Members, California State Board of Optometry (CSBO)
FROM	Shara Murphy, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Agenda Item #4 - Regulation: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Implementation of the Mobile Optometric Office Program, pursuant to Chapter 630, Statutes of 2021.

Assembly Bill 896 (Low, Chapter 121, Statutes of 2020), which was signed into law on September 24, 2020, created a new <u>Business and Professions Code (BPC) Section</u> <u>3070.2</u>. The law, among other things, allows for nonprofits and charitable organizations to provide optometric services to patients regardless of the patient's ability to pay through mobile optometric offices under a new registration program within the Board.

Assembly Bill 1534 (Chapter 630, Statutes of 2021), effective January 1, 2022, adds the authority for the Board to require registration of individual mobile optometric units operated by a non-profit or charitable organization. Board staff is currently revising the text approved by the Board at the May 21, 2021 public meeting to include the new authority added by AB 1534 and plans to present the changes at the March public meeting. The law requires regulatory implementation by January 1, 2023.

Board staff requests the creation of a two-person Mobile Optometric Office Workgroup, which will assist with the implementation of the program.

The Board also welcomes Genevieve Sanati, who joins the Board as the Mobile Optometric Office Program Coordinator. She will be leading the effort to implement the program.