

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB564

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Robinson

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions.

4. Title: Optometrists; continuing education requirements.

5. Summary: Increases the total number of hours of continuing education required for optometrists from 16 to 20, requires that at least 10 of such hours be obtained through real-time interactive activities, and provides that up to two of such hours may consist of courses related to recordkeeping or the management of an optometry practice, provided such courses are not primarily for the purpose of augmenting the licensee's income or promoting the sale of specific instruments or products. For TPA-certified optometrists, the bill requires at least 10 of the 20 hours be in the areas of ocular and general pharmacology, diagnosis and treatment of the human eye and its adnexa, including treatment with new pharmaceutical agents, or new or advanced clinical devices, techniques, modalities, or procedures. The bill allows optometrists who complete more than 20 hours of continuing education in a year to carry forward up to 10 hours to the next year and provides that the Board of Optometry is not prevented or limited from requiring additional hours or types of continuing education as part or in lieu of disciplinary action.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill as engrossed would not have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: None.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.