



Ohio House Insurance Committee

Testimony of Alexandria Mock on behalf of National Association of Vision Care Plans (NAVCP)

Proponent

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Good Morning Mr. Chairman, Vice Chair Henne, Ranking Member Boccieri and Members of the House Insurance Committee. My name is Ali Mock and I am a lobbyist with Government Edge. I am here today on behalf of our client, the National Association of Vision Care Plans. I will keep my comments brief as you have written comments from NAVCP's Executive Director, Julian Roberts.

I am here today to convey NAVCP's support for the substitute version (-5) of House Bill 156 for your consideration today. NAVCP supports policies that provide choice, clarity and value to consumers. Our members are focused on providing their enrollees with access to quality routine vision care. We feel that the current version of House Bill 156 provides clarity and transparency with network optometrists while ensuring patients enrolled in vision care plans are informed and clearly understand the benefits afforded to them.

As most of you know, we have worked diligently over many months, if not longer, with Representative Schuring, Vice Chair Henne, and the Ohio Optometric Association on the elements of this bill. It was important to NAVCP and its members that H.B. 156 contain certain, necessary consumer protections for us to support the bill's passage. We believe that H.B. 156 now benefits consumers and vision care providers alike while allowing our member plans the flexibility to present a wide range of affordable and robust options for eye wear and vision care services to Ohio employers and consumers.

NAVCP greatly appreciates the deliberate and serious discussion this legislation has had in this Committee. I personally want to thank all of you and applaud your commitment. We particularly thank Representative Schuring, Vice Chair Henne, and the Optometric Association for hours and hours of dedication to create sound public policy.

I would be pleased to take any questions at this time.