

Senate Bill 129
Written Testimony of Timothy Greiner
Proponent Testimony
April 24, 2024

Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the Senate Health Committee:

My name is Mr. Timothy Greiner and I am a patient of Dr. Jasmine Barker at Family Vision Care of Alliance. I recently underwent a SLT procedure to lower the eye pressure in my eyes due to glaucoma. Dr. Barker has been my optometrist for several years and has tried to treat me with several different eye drops that were either very costly or caused me to have significant side effects. We ultimately decided that I should have a laser done instead which I read to be very safe, effective and well covered by my insurance plan. I believe her hesitation to do this from the beginning was because she was not able to do it for me herself and I would have to travel outside our rural community to have it done. After traveling 30 miles to Kent, OH to see the ophthalmologist who could perform the laser -which took just a few minutes- I was perplexed why my local eye doctor could not have done it. I would not have had to take so much time off work (along with my wife who wanted to accompany me) and it was so easy. It was painless, quick and I had no side effects from it. So far it has had the effect we planned on. I will have to go back to the Kent, OH location if I need further laser instead of the practice that is right by my house. I was told that optometrists were looking to expand their scope of practice to include lasers and I would be very comfortable with an optometrist doing this. In fact, I would prefer it because Dr. Barker knows my eyes better than the ophthalmologist I met one time to do the procedure.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Timothy Greiner', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Timothy Greiner