

must be in consultation with a physician to take the step of oral medications. They wouldn't have to do that. They...I would guess if they were uncertain, they would talk to a physician. I would hope they would, but it wouldn't be required.

SENATOR ROBINSON: What...? don't know if you can answer this, but how often would the...in the practice of an optometrist would they be giving these medications, say, within a year? I...do you know, could you respond to that or do you have any idea?

SENATOR WESELY: My guess, I would think it would not be very frequent because, first off, they would try, I think, topical pharmaceuticals to deal with something with the eye and I think they would move to oral should that not work, I would think. And so you would have to have the situation first arise and I don't know how often that would happen, and then I would think you wouldn't use oral medications unless you really thought it was important, that you had a real problem there that needed to be addressed.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, thank you. I have a question for Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Do you...what historical perspective do we have on this? Are there other states that have what is presented in LB 429 without your amendment? And if this is so, what problems have they had?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Senator Robinson, if I can just take a little bit of your time and do that.

SENATOR ROBINSON: A little, okay.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I'll tell you what turned my tables here a little bit was...and people are talking about education. If you will go back to my opening, I didn't say the words education, I'm talking about training and experience that comes with residency and internships and that anybody could have that book. But I look at probably the best optometric school as probably the University of Pennsylvania and I noticed that the State of Pennsylvania doesn't allow them to do these sorts of things.