

To whom it may concern

March 19, 2023

My eyes have been a struggle for me for as long as I can remember. I have been to a number of optometrists over the years, with minimal success in helping me achieve comfort with my prescription and eye health. When I met Dr. Schmiedt, she listened to and worked with me in order to find the right combination of products to finally help me feel comfortable with my vision.

It has come to my attention that my optometrist, who has given me excellent care for several years now, is trained to help with numerous issues that many folks struggle with, but here in Minnesota she is not allowed to use her training. This is very unfortunate and impractical given the talents she has. Dr. Schmiedt makes patients feel comfortable, way more than an ophthalmologist does, and has the necessary training in order to treat a myriad of issues. I think that by allowing optometrists to offer the care they are trained to do, it can get everyone access to care faster and take some of the pressure off an already overwhelmed healthcare system.

The moral of the story is I want to see Minnesota continue to be known for high level, quality health care and I want to improve the lives of others like me by getting them easier access to the care they need. Thank you so much for considering this bill and the good it will do. Please support HF 2022 and SF1873. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Spencer Nelson

Ham Lake, Minnesota