

Approved April 8, 1976.

CHAPTER 192—S.F.No.2232

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to optometric services; providing for inclusion of optometric services in benefits for expenses incurred for medical treatment or services; amending Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 62A.15, Subdivision 1, and by adding a subdivision.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 62A.15, Subdivision 1, is amended to read:

62A.15 ACCIDENT AND HEALTH INSURANCE; CHIROPRACTIC AND OPTOMETRIC SERVICES IN ACCIDENT AND HEALTH AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE POLICIES. Subdivision 1. **APPLICABILITY.** The provisions of this section shall apply to all group policies or subscriber contracts providing payment for care in this state, which are issued or renewed after August 1, 1973, and after August 1, 1976, for optometric services, by accident and health insurance companies regulated under chapter 62A, and nonprofit health service plan corporations regulated under chapter 62C.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 62A.15, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. OPTOMETRIC SERVICES. All benefits provided by any policy or contract referred to in subdivision 1, relating to expenses incurred for medical treatment or services of a physician shall also include optometric treatment and services of an optometrist to the extent that the optometric services and treatment are within the scope of optometric licensure. This subdivision is intended to provide equal payment of benefits for optometric treatment and services and is not intended to change or add to the benefits provided for in such policies or contracts.

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Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by ~~strikeout~~